

MONTREAL WEEKLY WITNESS,

COMMERCIAL REVIEW AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

TWENTY-EIGHTH YEAR.
MONTREAL WEEKLY WITNESS, \$1 per annum.

MONTREAL, FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 1873

MONTREAL WITNESS, (Tri-Weekly) \$2 per annum.
DAILY WITNESS, \$3 per annum.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TORONTO.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

TORONTO, Feb. 24th.

THE TIMBER DEBATE.

After lasting for four days, came to a close on Wednesday evening last, after nearly every member had spoken upon the subject. Little of interest was advanced, the subject having been pretty well exhausted at this stage, and the speeches were mostly a mere rehearsal of the arguments used during the earlier portion of the debate. Numerous amendments and amendments to the amendments were moved, first by one side then by the other, until the question before the House became so confused that it was difficult to follow the proceedings. Finally, two amendments moved by Government supporters were carried, approving of the policy of surveying territory as far as practicable and dividing into townships before the sale of limits; and, secondly, expressing approval of the policy indicated by the Commissioner of Crown Lands, of offering no more timber lands for sale at present, and endorsing the practice of leaving the subject in the hands of the Government. The latter resolution was carried unanimously. It will be remembered that the original motion of Mr. Rykert's secured the Government for undertaking to deal with so important a question without the sanction of the House, whereas the Sandfield MacDonald theory of responsible government was that the Ministry should act on their own judgment in the first instance, and the House approve or censure them afterwards. The Opposition by first supporting Rykert's resolution, and then voting for the amendment, have stultified themselves, and shown that they are willing to resort to any weapon to obtain a temporary advantage.

M. P. LAWYERS.

On Thursday we had another personal debate, the particular question being the propriety of the partners of legal members of the House practicing before the Private Bill Committee in their professional capacity. Mr. MacDonald introduced a resolution condemning the practice and though he very studiously disclaimed all intention of casting any reflection upon private individuals, it was readily apparent that it was aimed at Messrs. Crooks, Blake and Bethune. The law firms of Crooks, Kingmill and Cattanch, and Blake, Kerr and Bethune have engaged extensively in this branch of practice, and the fact has been repeatedly thrown up to the members of those firms in the House by the Tory press. They have been charged with corrupt motives in supporting those bills which the firms were professionally engaged in promoting. Crooks and Bethune in reply made a satisfactory explanation to the effect that the partnerships were virtually dissolved so far as related to this branch of practice, and that they derived no emoluments from it. The mover of the resolution, who it must be said his credit was most moderate in his language and refrained from any personal allusions, expressed himself as being perfectly satisfied with this explanation, and the debate was adjourned until to-day.

THE ESTIMATES.

were brought down on Friday. Mr. Crooks in making his financial statement, acquitted himself much better than was anticipated. His voice was rather more distinct than usual, and his explanations as lucid as could well be expected considering the complicated state of the provincial accounts. He paid a just tribute to the assistance furnished by Hon. E. B. Wood, in the large amount of information concerning the public accounts placed on record, and enlarged upon the financial relations of the Province and the Dominion, showing that the amount due Ontario for subsidy, and as interest on the various funds forming assets belonging jointly to Quebec and Ontario, were reduced to \$1,054,900, in consequence of the interest on Ontario's supposed excess of debt assumed by the Dominion Government. The

TOTAL PROBABLE INCOME.

from all sources he estimated at \$2,680,900. Comparing this with the previous estimates, he considered that the permanent income of the Province might safely be fixed at two millions and a half, after allowing for the reductions in consequence of the settlement of the Municipal Loan Fund and a falling off in other items. The income from the recent rate of timber limits was dwelt on, and it was explained that half of this appeared in the public accounts as part of last year's income, and that the balance would accrue as part of this year's income. As a proof of the economical administration of the finances, he showed that they had been enabled to add \$500,000 to the amounts already invested over the sums paid out on account of the Railway Fund. Taking the amounts invested in public institutions, as distinguished from the current expenditure, as permanent assets, he claimed that the Province was in a better condition at the close of the year by \$1,479,556.

THE EXPENDITURE.

was estimated at \$2,771,028, which is slightly in excess of the anticipated revenue. This, however, includes a large vote of some of last year's unexpended items, such as the vote for the Agricultural College, and \$22,000 of last year's appropriation for emigration purposes. \$271,000 of the amount was also required for the Land Improvement Fund and Municipalities Fund, as distinguished from ordinary items of expenditure; so that the increase over last year's estimates is not a very startling one. The Mail has accused the Treasurer of dilatoriousness in comparing the estimates of this year with the estimates of 1872, instead of with the actual expenditure of that year. The latter is only \$1,847,956, while the estimates for that year is \$2,312,633—a very considerable difference. But it is obvious that to arrive at any just conclusion the estimate of one year must be compared with that of the other, and not with the expenditure, as in every case the actual amount expended has fallen largely within the mark. The estimates provide for every possible contingency, and it is grossly unfair to compare what is understood to be the outside amount that can be by any possibility be required with the actual outlay. The most noticeable increase is in the item of colonization roads, for which \$146,300 is required, in order to open up the back townships. The increase over the amount voted last year is upwards of \$60,000. \$135,824 is demanded for emigration purposes; \$80,000 was last year's vote, of which only \$57,000 was expended. The

number of agents employed this season in Crown accounts for the large increase. The Crown Lands expenditure is placed at \$202,100, being heavily augmented by reason of extensive surveys, including the boundaries between Ontario and Quebec and the Dominion territory to the west and north. There is a considerable and very justifiable and much-needed increase in salaries in connection with the various departments, which are, in many cases, wretchedly inadequate. The Treasurer closed his speech with an appropriate reference to the prosperous condition of the country and the great of commercial activity prevailing, in proof of which he stated that since Confederation nineteen million dollars had been invested in railway enterprises in Ontario, including Government aid, municipal bonuses and private investments. He quoted this very satisfactory condition of affairs as the best answer to the aspersions cast by the London Times upon Canada and Canadians.

QUITE A SCENE.

occurred between Mr. Cameron and the Treasurer during the reply of the former, who groundlessly insinuated that Hon. E. B. Wood had personally assisted the latter in the preparation of his statement, and that the ex-Treasurer was also preparing the Surplus Distribution scheme. Messrs. Crooks and Mowat rather indignantly denied this, when the Opposition leader withdrew the offensive statement, but in such a manner as belied his words, and left the impression that he still retained his opinion.

NO PROVISION FOR NEW NORMAL SCHOOLS.

It is to be noted that the estimates contain no provision for any appropriation for the additional Normal Schools to be established in Ottawa, Kingston, and London, so that it is probable that nothing will be done in the matter this session.

SETTLERS' DEKS.

To-night the question of the reduction to be made to settlers on Crown and School Lands in the price of their farms still remained due to the Government. came up, Rykert making one of his favorite motions for voluminous remarks in connection with the subject. Mr. E. B. Wood made a strong opposition speech, to the general surprise, as he has of late been prominent in supporting them. His course on the timber question has greatly weakened the force of anything he may advance on either side. He denounced the contemplated general reduction as unjust to those settlers who had paid for their land, but thought that in special cases of hardship where the land taken up had proved greatly inferior and not worth the price, reduction might be made. The Opposition chuckled mightily when he warned the Ministry that "if they would perpetuate the power of the Reform party they have got to vindicate the principles of Reform." Wood has a singular habit of interlarding his speeches with Scripture quotations, in the most incongruous connections. To-night he alluded to the early settlers as having made the "wilderness to rejoice and blossom as the rose" in a manner which certainly sounded stranger as he delivered the sentence than it appears in print, and wound up one of his declamatory sentences with "forever and ever world without end—Amen." The motion was voted down.

A SKERPY DEBATE.

Mr. McDonald's motion on private bill practice is up again, and will probably be disposed of to-night. During the debate Wells accused Stephen Richards of having when in office allowed his law partner to appear before him and argue cases in his professional capacity, and the ex-commissioner is making a tedious and rambling defence, under the somniferous influence of which two of the Ministry have fallen sound asleep, and other members are amusing themselves by throwing paper pellets at each other. The House much resembles Moore's barquet hall deserted, the galleries are empty, and only about one-fourth of the members in their places. I think I will follow the general example and retire without waiting for the close of the debate.

"AM I MY BROTHER'S KEEPER?"

(To the Editor of the Witness.)

Sir,—Since this language was used by the murdered Cain, what a sad history our race has presented. The whole world lieth in wickedness, is the teaching of holy writ, and of continued painful experience. Yet what cause for thankfulness it is, however, that there is a grand remedy provided. "In Him (Christ) the tribes of Adam boast more blessings than their father lost." Prominent amongst the agencies in human destruction must be reckoned the use of intoxicating liquors, and with reference to this as well as other means for aiding and abetting in doing the will of the "Prince of Darkness," how appropriate the warning declaration, "Woe unto the world because of offences, (hindrances, stumbling blocks)—It must needs be that offences come, but woe unto him by whom they come." What a blasting agency and hindrance to all good is intoxicating liquor. What a power to fill jails, lunatic asylums, poorhouses, hospitals, cemeteries, is this in its demoralizing influence—to turn away from all good, and to people the regions of the lost with those of whom God's Word declares "No drunkard shall inherit the Kingdom of God."

Who is not daily in contact with this fearful power? Who is there, but in one form or other has been damaged by it? What blighted hopes, what desolated homes, what wrecks—mental, bodily, spiritually, has it not caused—wrecks for time and for ever. Some time since a poor widow called on me one pleasant morning on the writer to see if anything could be done to save her son from destruction, fast going down to death through liquor! He had chivalry learned to drink by the influence of wild companions aided by the facilities presented at almost every corner. "My heart is breaking" was in substance her pathetic lament. The best advice possible was attempted to be administered to the sorrowing widow, especially that unfailing refuge, prayer, was commended. Well, that son did reform—became a sober, trusted member of society, and was going on apparently well as to this world when, in an evil hour, again led away by pretended friends, but really his worst enemies, again tempted, again fell, and in a few weeks his mangled remains were brought home to his mother. He took away his own life under very awful circumstances. Who slew that young man? The "Cains" concerned might say, "Are we," "Am I, a brother's keeper?"

Take another recent case. A father within a few days past in great anguish of mind said, "I have great trouble with my sons: all of them are now I may say drunkards; even the youngest is following fast in his older brother's footsteps, and I don't know what to do. Last

Saturday night one of them went out and came back mad with liquor—such a scene as we had—it was awful—and that too about the beginning of the Sabbath; our lives were in positive danger. Oh, it is terrible," he added, "and I know not what to do in the case." This man and his excellent wife are trying to get to heaven. He is a God-fearing, praying man, and his sole resource is to look to God. Asking in that state, after he sobered, how it was he got in that state, he said, in substance, he fell in with some others, and the taverns were handy and the liquor was got.

Has society no remedy for this curse; must we all submit to this state of things yet longer; must fathers, mothers, sons and daughters, continue to be sacrificed on this fearful Moloch altar? "How long, O Lord, how long?"

With reference to public teachers, and the press as well as the pulpit, comes the solemn word of God, "Son of man, I have set thee a watchman; if thou warn not the wicked and the perish, his blood will I require at the watchman's hand." O for a voice of thunder and the will and power to use it, for all the watchmen in our land, and the world, to warn all as to the great danger, and to secure an uprising of the people to determine in the name and with the help of God, that there shall be, as far as this monster evil is concerned, liberty from its blasting influences throughout the earth and to all its inhabitants forever!

THE TEMPERANCE REFORM.

SERMON BY THE REV. GAVIN LANG, ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, SUNDAY—SUGGESTION AS TO A COMPREHENSIVE TEMPERANCE UNION.

The following sermon, containing an important suggestion, was preached at the morning service Sunday, by the Rev. Gavin Lang, in St. Andrew's Church. The Rev. gentleman took for his text—

"I speak as to wise men; judge ye what I say."—1 Corinthians X. 15.

In inviting your attention to the present position of what is commonly known as the Temperance Movement, and the responsibility, congregational and individual, of Christians in relation to it, I am anxious not to be misunderstood. I do so in the interest of Temperance itself. The subject, thus suggested, is one which ought to be considered earnestly, and deliberately by all of us. Its consideration is not the monopoly, the close preserve of any mere section of the community. The evil of intemperance affects society in general, and every true patriot and lover of order and righteousness should be deeply concerned about its removal. And, with regard to our city, I am satisfied that the vast majority of the citizens are ready and eager, when rightly directed, to join in any and every legitimate effort to accomplish this most desirable result.

Nor is that large proportion to be found only among the number of excellent persons who, without requiring it for their own security, have taken the step called "signing the pledge." I claim that outside this wide circle there is a still wider, in which more shrewd, upright, consistent and godly men and women who live, daily and scrupulously, in the practice of temperance, and whose sympathies are as warm in the good cause as those of any who have adopted the rigid "hard and fast" rule, and subscribed to the creed, of total abstinence. Brethren, it is well and only fair that we should fully and clearly realize this. We are often told the opposite by many whose partisan zeal is apt to outrun their discretion. A kind of language is sometimes employed which leads the unreflecting to believe that all who do not go a certain length, who do not side with a certain school, are necessarily to be ranked as enemies to true Temperance. It is scarcely needful to point out the fallacy underlying all such statements, and great harm is done to religion by the tone of unwarranted assumption in which they are too frequently made. The truth is, we are all differently constituted. In the matter of giving pledges some have no difficulty, while others conscientiously have. The motives of both may be thoroughly pure and sincere. We can surely agree to differ about the way of manifesting, and yet together hold, the sacred principle of Temperance. "Every man's mind is his own kingdom." For myself, I think it not unlikely that the very fact of my being an unpledged, but constant, advocate of Temperance enables me to speak with especial calmness and impartiality upon several aspects of the vexed question of "how best we can promote its spread and check its abuse." At all events, being pledged does not impart to any one, or to any body of people, the exclusive right of devising, or deciding upon, the most effectual means of arresting the progress of intemperance. We are all equally competent and entitled to grapple with this social problem. I ask, is it not so?—I speak as to wise men; judge ye what I say.

I. Let us notice the present position of the so-called Temperance movement. It is evident, notably in our midst, that the operations of Total Abstinence societies are drifting in a direction so ambitious as to compel observation and thought on the part of all classes in the Dominion.

Hitherto, the business of such societies has been confined to conference among their members, and bringing private influence or petitions to Parliament, or other high courts, to bear upon projected legislation. But now, the bolder course has been resolved upon of agitating for a law, the effect of which would be that all liquor-traffic, in every Province of the Confederation, would be prohibited as illegal. Nor do I express disapproval, under some limitations, of the proposal. On the contrary, I am prepared to admit that, in many respects and to many people, the addition of even so stringent a measure to our statute book would be an unmistakable boon; further, that the comfort of most people would not thereby be so much curtailed as to require from any a sacrifice such as all could not, frankly and cheerfully, make. But the idea appears less promising when we look more narrowly into the evil meant to be cured. The Medical Declaration, which we have all seen and read, informs us that, to a great extent, "human misery, poverty, disease and crime are produced by the use of alcoholic liquors as a beverage." No words could be plainer than these. But the question arises, is not the use of alcoholic liquors, in most cases of intemperance, in its turn attributable to another cause, the contemplated prohibitory enactment could neither reach nor correct? It seems to me that, to find the root of the mischief, we must strike deeper than is usually done. As regards the lumber classes, indifference about the laws of health, and the absence of many of the little harmless comforts which make home attractive, have driven thousands and millions to the intoxicating cup. It is granted that intemperance

is a sin chiefly incurred by men. Why should it be so? I do not deny that the temptation presented by the dram shop has very much to do with the prevalence of drunkenness—these places, besides being disgracefully numerous, are traps which snare only too successfully, and cannot too soon be put down by the strong arm of law. But the principal reason for the state of affairs which we all deplore is to be found, first and foremost, in the households of most of the victims.

If these were all filled with the sunshine which love, good management, and a hearty welcome to the bread-winner on his return from labor invariably supply, comparatively few workmen would habitually, even occasionally, frequent the gin-palace. They are not always, as they should be, cheered during the week by the prospect, and after toil by the sweets of a strengthening meal and a smiling fire-side. I am not speaking of this at random. I have seen it, not only here, but also in Scotland—that country which, in this connection, has a notoriety unenviable indeed, but not, after all, so glaringly bad as is often represented. "I speak as to wise men; judge ye what I say."

II. Let us consider the responsibility congregational and individual, of Christians in relation to the Temperance Movement. It is one of the hopeful signs of that movement that it is being rapidly taken up by earnest men, belonging to the secular professions and engaged in business. It is refreshing to see doctors, lawyers, merchants and teachers of youth lifting their pen and voice against the crying enormity of intemperance. The field is no longer left entirely to clergymen and mere theorists or declaimers. Those of us who followed the discussions at the recent League meetings, on the advisability or otherwise of applying for a prohibitory law, must have been struck with the practical and common sense views of several of the most prominent lay-delegates. To me all this is a highly encouraging indication. It indicates that the time has come when it may be possible to enlarge the Temperance platform, in respect of both its champions and its objects. The Temperance declaration, for example, which nearly all the members of the Medical Profession in Montreal signed only the other day, at the request of a Total Abstinence Society, shows that those who hold extreme opinions on that subject are beginning to recognize that their efforts can be aided by even those who have not gone so far as to sign a pledge.

It is of the very greatest moment that all who mourn over the evil of intemperance should be banded together in the holy undertaking of stemming its tide and checking its growth, and by all means both rich and poor should share in such an undertaking. It requires the co-operation of all. But, by the confession of the League, whose sessions have just closed, their exertions are not seconded by our wealthier and more powerful citizens in any large numbers, and, while saying some hard things about their attitude, I fear I acknowledge as sufficiently important to justify a special appeal for their support. In these circumstances I venture to throw out a suggestion that a Union of all who wish well to the good cause of temperance, whether abstainers or non-abstainers, should be formed. There is nothing incompatible in such a Union. Neither is the idea utopian. It has been already proved to be both feasible and advantageous. A society on this basis has been lately established in connection with the sister national Church at home, under the presidency of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. It is called "the Church of England Temperance Society," and has grown out of a smaller Total Abstinence Society of ten years standing. Its committee, in their manifesto, state "that their object is to provide a platform for immediate effort on which every earnest-minded member of the Church, whether abstainer or non-abstainer, who feels the reproach of our national intemperance, and desires to bear a part in taking it away, shall see his own views more or less represented, and shall carry them into action, while side by side with him in the same society, other less earnest, are working out theirs."

A very remarkable confession appears in the report of this same committee. "From whatever side the question is approached, it is the work of associated effort on the part of members of the Church"—so runs this document—"which reveals itself as the great source of weakness in the past; it is the rectifying of that want which must give the best hope of success in the future." And then in another of the exhaustive papers of that Society occurs the following striking passage:—"With the increased knowledge of the whole subject, which the work among the temperate gave, came the conviction that the ramifications of the evil were extending far more widely and deeply than was generally supposed. It was found that social, domestic, trading, customs were alike affected by it; that not the moral and spiritual condition only, but the physical, industrial, and national status of our people was seriously compromised, and it was strongly felt that—slow at best as the total abstinence movement must be—it was necessary, while not relinquishing an inch of the ground which that movement had gained, to find some wider and common basis on which Christian people could unite in attacking the giant evil on all sides and in all lawful ways."

But it may be asked how the special proclivities and extreme sentiments of those who believe in no course but total abstinence are provided for in this broad constitution? The difficulty is fairly met in a further paragraph of the Society's prospectus which is couched in these words:—"One possible misconception of our work must be noticed. Our abstaining friends and members, whose growing convictions have led them to regard abstinence from intoxicating drinks as the true remedy for the evil, may think that we are less earnest in that branch of our work, because side by side with it we are placing another and, in some respects, more comprehensive organization. We must ask them at once to dismiss this notion. They will see, on reference to the programme, that the Total Abstinence Committee remains what it was, in no way interfered with by its connection with the larger organization. The modes of action of the two Committees of the Society will be parallel and mutually helpful to the other—not identical in their aspect, yet not altogether different: as like as sisters ought to be." Wherever the General Society obtains a footing, there the total abstinence branch will necessarily be represented.

presenting its principles, its mode of action, and its results, in quarters to which, heretofore, it has not come near, and wherever permitted, doing its part as earnestly and hopefully as heretofore, and in every respect as independently. It will pursue its course, trusting to the power of truth, as it becomes known through wider circles, to draw in an ever increasing number of earnest laborers to this special field of self-denying Christian work." But I have probably quoted enough from the

utterances of a Society embracing in its directorate and membership a host of spiritual and social philanthropists, to impress every reasonable mind with the belief that the advocates of Temperance, of all shades, can combine their forces and work together for the one high and holy purpose dear to each. It can be done, and nothing need prevent but pride or prejudice. All men and women who are correct in their lives, be they total or partial abstainers, ought to be pressed into the service. They are, each and every one, bound to do what they can for the furtherance of temperance. And it is open to the partial to do as much as the total abstainer. I protest against the doctrine that they who sign a pledge are necessarily better friends, or firmer upholders, of temperance than they who do not. I do not quarrel with those who do not. I do not quarrel with those who do. Scores of times, that I have urged those to whom I thought it would be a safeguard to put themselves under this, to them, whole-some restraint. But, as has been said, "Total Abstinence is not the gospel of the grace of God," and as eminent and useful Christians as any anywhere, have lived and died without espousing its tenets—Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind."

The step, however, is good in itself, and to those who see their way, or feel constrained to embrace its obligations, I wish, with all my heart, God speed. Nay, so keen is my sense of the benefit bestowed upon humanity by total abstainers, that I am the more solicitous that there should be common cause between them and all who, without using their shibboleth, are yet willing and wishful to enter the lists against the deadly enemy, Intemperance. The experiment of bringing both together, and welding them to the same glorious work is worth trying. The sooner the junction is effected, the better for the world. This only would I say touching ourselves: In any Temperance Union consummated in our own midst, I would personally prefer that its composition should be eminently catholic—began and carried on without regard to Churches or denominations, except in so far as it is always right, for the sake of ensuring catholicity, to make a conscience of not allowing a preponderance of representation, in the governing bodies, of one religious communion over another. Above all things, let it be a society in which the Christian element is the predominating feature. Other features are also essential to its prosperity. Men whose talents lie in that way, must sacrifice time and give attention to the proper conduct of its affairs and the increase of its influence. All its members, it may be added, ought to help it on, realizing that the duties and drudgery of life would be done more efficiently and creditably did not drink so often enfeeble and demoralize those who are called to do them. But all will, in the end, be unavailing and unprofitable without the guidance of the Holy Ghost, who is the gift of God through Christ. Prayer for the outpouring of His grace, the interposition of His might, the communication of His energy is our own best preservative against the encroachments of Satan upon our souls, and the best guarantee of success to any cause in whose behalf we plead and strive. We cannot be too importunate at the footstool of the Heavenly Throne, for this power from on high. It is certain that on its possession hang the world's all and our own all for both time and eternity. Brethren, "I speak as to wise men; judge ye what I say."

A WAREHOUSE TO HOLD SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND BUSHELS OF GRAIN.

The Montreal Warehousing Company commenced business in 1869, and besides their spacious stone warehouse in Wellington street, which rose from the ruins of the first building, destroyed by fire, and which has a capacity for 650,000 bushels of grain, and 60,000 barrels of flour, were compelled in 1871 to increase their storage room. They accordingly purchased the Royal Mills and Warehouses on Mill street, with a capacity for two hundred thousand bushels of grain, and forty thousand barrels of flour. But the increasing trade completely exhausted their own room, and goods offered on storage had to be refused or sent to other places; so the Company resolved on building an immense warehouse for the grain trade. This is now in course of erection. It has 150 feet frontage on Mill street, and a wing runs back 150 feet, fronting on an inlet from the river, which it is proposed to convert into a canal basin. The breadth of the building will be 65 and 70 feet respectively across the two wings. The foundations are of solid masonry, 22 feet deep, while blocks of stone 3 feet by four are placed under each pile or upright. The latter consists of four immense beams, face to face, and ranged at intervals of 5 feet underneath the bins. The latter will number about 115, are to be 60 feet in height, and to contain each over 5,200 bushels of grain. The cross beams supporting these are 14 inches square, backed by 12 inches of oak, making the fabric immensely strong. The lower story will be arranged so that the railway cars can run in and discharge their contents into large iron receptacles set underneath the flooring and from which elevators will convey the grain aloft. There are to be seven of these elevators in operation, and it is calculated that each one will remove over 4,000 bushels per hour; thus an ordinary train of nine cars can be unloaded every two hours. This rapid discharge and storage of the produce will be accelerated by the introduction of patent grain shovels, a new invention which is used in the West. They will be worked by machinery, and one man with his aid can shovel out a car in a few minutes. A portion of the premises are to be ready for the fall trade of the present year, and the rest as soon as possible. The motive power for elevating, &c., will eventually be supplied by two large water-wheels.

The Government also intend removing the waste weir, at the side of the Royal Mills, and by placing a lock below the new storehouse form a basin by the side of it, where vessels of all sizes and drafts of water will be able to load or unload, as the depth of water will be fully twenty feet, and the system of locks to be constructed in connection with the harbor improvements will afford access for sea-going craft. When this building is finished, the Company will have storage capacity for 1,350,000 bushels of grain, and 160,000 barrels of flour, and the most expeditious methods of handling produce at command. Their preparations to meet the wants of the grain trade are timely, for the indications from the West are that, during the season of 1873, more trade will go via Montreal and the St. Lawrence than ever before.

Mr. J. S. Barrie has charge of the erection of the new warehouse, and Mr. T. Pringle will give his attention to the mechanical arrangements within.

A NEW LINE OF PAPER BOATS FOR CHICAGO.—A new line composed of ten first class propellers, and the side wheel steamboat "Osprey" has been formed this winter to carry on the forwarding trade during 1873 between Montreal and Chicago. The boats will also call at Toronto, Hamilton, Toledo, Detroit, and the "Osprey," from her size, will be compelled to run entirely on the Lower Lake, thus affording facilities for way as well as through shippers.

THE LIBEL SUIT.—At a regular meeting of Perseverance Tent, Independent Order of Rechabites, held last evening, the following resolution was passed:—Moved by Acting Shepherd Bro. Dr. Reed and seconded by Bro. Edmund T. Perry and

Resolved that "Having learned this day, with regret, that one of the proprietors of the Daily Witness has been committed for alleged libel in an article headed 'Mistaken Generosity,' this Society desires to record the very great services rendered to the cause of Temperance in the past by that journal, its judicious and fearless comments on the drinking customs of society, and tenders to the proprietors its hearty sympathy in the present vexatious prosecution."

"RAY J. K. MACDONALD, Chief Ruler."

LACHINE CANAL—CONTEMPLATED IMPROVEMENTS.

While the Dominion Government has been making active preparations for the early enlargement of the Welland, it has not been neglectful of the St. Lawrence canals. Plans have been draughted and surveys are now being made in connection with the deepening of the Lachine canal. In addition a scheme is under consideration for increasing the harbor accommodation at its lower entrance. For this purpose it is intended to dredge out the central portion of Windmill Point, within the existing canal and lumber yards, to the depth of at least 18 feet, make an entrance from the harbor, and from the western extremity of this extensive basin, a series of locks 270 feet long by 45 wide, with 18 feet water on the sills, would give a passage into basin No. 2, the present upper Canal Basin. Through No. 2, a ship channel will be dredged up to, or perhaps a little to the south of, Wellington Bridge. And here will be the entrance proper to a basin, intended to be excavated in the flat ground, close to the canal, and lying in Point St. Charles. Its area will be large, and here it is intended ocean steamships and sailing vessels will lie at the dock, while the barges and lake craft will come alongside and effect an interchange of cargo. Here also it is likely large coal and lumber yards will be established, while close by will be the grain warehouses of the Montreal Warehousing Company. By this means No. 2, or the existing large basin, will have two separate outlets to the river—one for ocean shipping and the other, the one at present in use.

This extensive series of improvements will, it is said, likely be commenced this season, and at the same time, the Lachine Canal is to be deepened to twelve feet, and widened; the large sized locks will be introduced, and by the time the Welland canal is ready for the passage of the huge Chicago and Buffalo iron steamers, of from 1,200 to 2,000 tons burden, loaded direct from Montreal, those fresh water Leviathans will be able to come direct along side the Allan steamers, compare size and model, and exchange cargo.

A survey is now in progress to ascertain the depth of water, obstructions, strength of current, &c., in the different reaches which lie between the various St. Lawrence canals. This survey will be completed in April, and will no doubt make public much valuable information for the benefit of fresh water navigators.

It is expected that in May, 1873, all those improvements will be completed, and by that time no doubt Western trade will be sorely in need of them.

WEEKLY SYNOPSIS OF MONTREAL NEWS.

—The annual races of the Maple Leaf Snow-shoe Club were held on the 1st inst.

—A youth named Rossignol has his arm taken off in a playing mill on the 27th ult.

—A brilliant fancy-dress entertainment was given at the Victoria Hall on the 25th ult.

—There were 74 deaths in the city in the week ending 22nd ult., and 93 in that ending March 1st.

—The investigation into the charges against Mr. Belle, emigration agent, is being proceeded with.

—Sir Hugh Allan and other Directors of the Canadian Pacific Railway have left for England to raise funds.

—On the 28th ult., Judge Mondelet, while in Chambers, was seized with an apoplectic fit, but afterwards recovered.

—The Liberal city members, Hon. John Young and Mr. Jetté, received an ovation on their departure for Ottawa on the 3rd inst.

—The stockholders of St. Patrick's Hall have confirmed their previous decision—to sell the site and remains of the property.

—The aggregate number of deaths in the city and the surrounding municipalities in 1872, was 5,860, of which 583 were from small-pox.

—A fund has been collected by a private committee to increase the size of the General Hospital, and building will likely be commenced in the spring.

—Mr. F. Cushing has brought an action against the Directors of the Victoria Skating Club for \$5,000 damages for alleged illegal suspension from the rink.

—In the Municipal elections, David and Rivard, the old members for St. Louis and St. James' Wards, have been re-elected, by rather narrow majorities after hard struggle, and Bryson, a new man, over another new man, by a very large majority.

—The annual meeting of the Boys' Home was held on the 3rd inst. Ten boys on the average have been inmates during the year, and have invariably improved in character. Resolutions were passed in favor of an industrial school, and one gentleman promised to double any savings made by the boys during the year. The debt against the Home on account of ordinary expenditure is \$467.

A NEW LINE OF PAPER BOATS FOR CHICAGO.—A new line composed of ten first class propellers, and the side wheel steamboat "Osprey" has been formed this winter to carry on the forwarding trade during 1873 between Montreal and Chicago. The boats will also call at Toronto, Hamilton, Toledo, Detroit, and the "Osprey," from her size, will be compelled to run entirely on the Lower Lake, thus affording facilities for way as well as through shippers.

THE LIBEL SUIT.—At a regular meeting of Perseverance Tent, Independent Order of Rechabites, held last evening, the following resolution was passed:—Moved by Acting Shepherd Bro. Dr. Reed and seconded by Bro. Edmund T. Perry and

Resolved that "Having learned this day, with regret, that one of the proprietors of the Daily Witness has been committed for alleged libel in an article headed 'Mistaken Generosity,' this Society desires to record the very great services rendered to the cause of Temperance in the past by that journal, its judicious and fearless comments on the drinking customs of society, and tenders to the proprietors its hearty sympathy in the present vexatious prosecution."

"RAY J. K. MACDONALD, Chief Ruler."

DEATH OF AN OLD SETTLER.—Mr. WILLIAM KIRBY, a respected resident of Hawkesbury, died yesterday (Friday) aged 78. Deceased emigrated from Yorkshire, Eng., in 1819, and after residing three years in Montreal he settled in Hawkesbury in 1822, where he has lived for 51 years. During his stay in this city he resided in St. Paul street, which at that time was different from the great commercial thoroughfare it has now become, and he had many curious stories to tell of a generation and manners now almost passed away.

LIBEL SUIT AGAINST THE "WITNESS."

PROCEEDINGS, ARGUMENTS OF COUNSEL, JUDGMENT, &c.

On Thursday, the 13th inst., J. Redpath Douglass, the editor of this paper, was arrested at the instance of Mr. Alex. McGibbon, grocer, Montreal, on a charge of libel arising out of an article published in the *Daily Witness* of the 8th inst.

The case being brought before Mr. Brehaut, the Police Magistrate, the defendant gave bail, and the following Monday was appointed for further proceedings in *enquete*. On the last named day the case was resumed in the Police Court before Thomas S. Judah, Esq., J. P., who occupied the bench in lieu of Mr. Brehaut, absent on leave. A considerable number of spectators were present in Court, and appeared to take a lively interest in the proceedings. Messrs. Kerr & Devlin appeared for the prosecution, and Messrs. Carter, Q. C., and L. Cushing for the defence. Mr. Charles Roach, book-keeper in Mr. McGibbon's store, and Mr. A. W. Ogilvie were examined and their depositions taken down. They simply went to state that the depositions believed that the article in question referred to the plaintiff.

The result of Monday's proceedings was, the magistrate decided that there was *prima facie* evidence of libel in the case, and that he had power to deal with it. This being so, the following day, Tuesday, was fixed for hearing the argument of counsel on both sides. Before giving, however, the said argument we furnish the following discussion from the report of the Monday's proceedings, as tending to show the tone in which they were conducted:

Mr. Carter—I refer to that, because Mr. McGibbon takes credit to himself as being some great man, and we know that in matters of libel, if you libel a great man it takes very little to subject you to punishment, and I want to show that Mr. McGibbon disappears entirely from the entertainment as a private individual, and that it was essentially a public entertainment.

Mr. Judah—By doing that you are travelling out of the question, which I think is all we have to do with, that is, whether there is evidence to establish a *prima facie* case of libel. There is no necessity for you to go into all these questions to-day. Narrow it down, if you please.

Mr. Carter—If your Worship will allow me to show why I contend that these questions are relevant, I can show by authority if this was a public entertainment.

Mr. Judah—That is going on the merits. Mr. Carter—I want to establish the point of law. It is an object for me to prove that this was a public entertainment, for I have authority to cite to your Worship that if this was a public entertainment the article could not be a libel under any circumstances. If I get an answer to show that this was a public entertainment, then I cite my law to show that there was no libel.

Mr. Judah—But on Mr. Devlin's objection that the question is irrelevant, I have no difficulty in ruling that it is so, and has nothing to do with the sole question before me. Whether it is a libel or not, may be brought on at trial, but I'm not going into that in this investigation. I am here to decide whether there is *prima facie* evidence of a libel, and I am not going to decide whether the honor of entertaining the Governor-General belonged to the snow-shoe club or any one else.

Mr. Carter—But if Mr. McGibbon says that the Governor-General came upon his invitation, we say it's untrue.

Mr. Judah—I have nothing to do with the invitation to the Governor-General. Mr. McGibbon swears in his examination in chief that he invited him, but you cannot cross-examine upon it. If I had presided when the deposition was made I would have asked Mr. Devlin to make it much shorter.

Mr. Carter—Then your Honor will not allow me to prove that this was a public entertainment, and not a private one?

Mr. Judah—I cannot sit here and allow you to do that.

Mr. Carter (to witness)—Was the entertainment that took place at your house a public entertainment?

Mr. Judah—Do you object to that?

Mr. Devlin did, and the objection was maintained.

TUESDAY—ARGUMENTS OF COUNSEL.

Mr. Devlin moved in the first place upon the evidence adduced that John Redpath Douglass take his trial at the ensuing term of the Court of Queen's Bench, Crown side, to be held on the 24th March instant.

Mr. Carter, on rising, said that as the evidence for the prosecution had been declared closed, it was his duty to move that the defendant be discharged.

POWERS OF THE COURT.

Mr. Carter continued, the first point to be considered was whether the powers to be exercised by your Worship were ministerial or judicial. From an observation made by his Worship yesterday, it might be inferred that he considered his duties merely ministerial, and that if a charge of libel was preferred and the publication proved, it was his duty to bind the accused over to stand his trial. He, Mr. Carter, contended that his Worship was sitting there as a Judge exercising judicial powers, and that it was his duty to see whether the information contained a charge of libel, and set forth such facts as by law constituted the offence of libel. He, Mr. Carter, would admit that if the subject matter set forth in the information charged as a libel, amounted in law to a libel, and the facts were *prima facie* such as against the accused of having published the libel, it was then necessary to send the case before another Court; but if, as he contended, no libel had been published in the sense recognized by law as constituting a crime, it was the bounden duty of the Court to discharge the accused.

Mr. Judah—On both these propositions we agree perfectly.

Mr. Carter—That being conceded, I now proceed to argue the question of law as to what constitutes a libel.

I will take for my authority in the first instance the work quoted by Mr. Kerr at the previous sitting. Archbold, Criminal Pleading, at the page cited by Mr. Kerr, says:—"In considering what writings are libellous, it may be necessary to premise that wherever an action will lie for a libel, without laying special damages, an indictment will also lie." The author then illustrates this rule by giving instances, the enumeration of which established beyond a doubt that the article complained of, headed "Mistaken Generosity," does not fall within the enumeration. The instances given by Archbold are, to impute to a person the commission of a crime punishable by law, such as treason, murder, or any other felony or misdemeanor punishable by indictment; to impute to him anything which may exclude him from society, such as charging him with having an infectious disease; to call a tradesman a bankrupt, a physician a quack, or a lawyer a knave, &c.

This enumeration shows, that in a civil action special damage need not be alleged, as the words are *per se* libellous, and being so, are by law a libel punishable criminally as well.

The same proposition is clearly laid down in Woolrich, Criminal Law, page 1133, and this author clearly indicates the limitation to be placed on the rule applicable to writings regarded as libellous. He says, "But this rule concerning unpleasant imputations is not to be carried so far as to fetter society in the exercise of that rightful freedom which enables men to sift the character of their fellows without malice. And, therefore, where a paper was exhibited at a club room, stating that the plaintiffs were excluded from the room as persons whom the proprietors and annual subscribers did not think it proper to associate with, the Court gave judgment for the defendants upon demurrer. For here was no imputation of the plaintiffs' moral character, nor any imputation beyond the fact of the defendants not deeming the plaintiffs proper persons for their society."

Mr. Carter continued, That applying this law to the present case, it would be found that there was nothing in the article complained of which brought it within the class of cases referred to by Archbold, and the citation from Woolrich clearly showed that society must not be fettered to the extent of prohibiting any comment upon events, however unpleasant such comments might be, if the matters charged as libellous could not give rise to a civil action without alleging special damages. The law to be administered in this case, was the law of England as it existed prior to the year 1764, and although our civil law may differ from the English law, as affecting the exercise of a civil remedy, the criminal liability was to be determined by the English criminal law.

Mr. Carter then commented upon the article in question, and said:—"I endeavored at the previous sitting to prove, on the cross-examination of Mr. McGibbon, that the invitation to His Excellency had been extended to him by the Alexandra Snow-Shoe Club, and that it being understood that the other snow-shoe clubs were to join in the torchlight march over the Mountain, His Excellency had accepted their invitation. This was objected to by Mr. McGibbon's counsel, and objection maintained. This question was put with a view of establishing that the Governor-General was the invited guest of the snow shoe club, and that the torchlight march over the Mountain, and the entertainment, partook of a public demonstration, and entertainment. He contended that Mr. McGibbon's opening his house for the use of the club, did not constitute him the host, acting as such in his own private house on a private occasion, as the fact was that Mr. McGibbon, by his own act, admitted the President of the Alexandra Club to be the host on the occasion, and to act as such. Mr. McGibbon, then, was nothing more than a private individual, and it was absurd to pretend that the Governor was the guest of Mr. McGibbon in his private residence, and on a private occasion. Although the cross-examination was disallowed, fortunately Mr. McGibbon's deposition, drawn by his own counsel, begins by admitting that a number of young men belonging to the Alexandra Snow-Shoe Club, desirous of affording His Excellency an opportunity of witnessing their winter amusements, solicited him to honor them with his presence at a march on snow-shoes, &c., and that His Excellency having kindly consented to do so, the Alexandra Club, and several other clubs, assembled, &c. This, I contend, is all that is needed to show the public character of the entertainment, which cannot be altered by the fact that the supper and wines may have been supplied by Mr. McGibbon."

Thus it is that I contend I had a right to prove that one or more persons did become intoxicated and unruly, in order to establish that the article in question was a fair comment on what transpired on a public occasion, in the interest of the cause of temperance and for the public good. The law which excludes the proof of the truth of the libel, upon the principle of "the greater the truth the greater the libel," does not apply to this case. There being no libel charged which imputed a crime to Mr. McGibbon punishable by law, the objection did not apply. The article, if a libel, is directed against those who may have forgotten themselves, and pointed out the danger of exposing youths to such temptation as was placed before them. It was an article advocating the cause of temperance, a subject which is public in its nature, and in which the whole community is interested. Instead of its publication being criminal, he was prepared to prove by the highest authority that it was laudable and praiseworthy.

Mr. Carter here quoted Starkie, Law of Slanders and Libel, pages 709 and 710, as follows:—"This important limitation seems on principles of public policy already adverted to, in discussing the grounds of civil liability, to extend to all publications made in the fair discharge of any public or private, legal or moral duty of which the ordinary exigencies of society, or the party's own private interest, require the performance. This principle seems to comprehend all publications on subjects of general and public concern in which the author possesses an interest in common with the rest of the community. Every one, as it seems, has a right to publish that which, in his opinion, will tend to enlighten, instruct or even amuse mankind; he who attains this object may justly be regarded as a benefactor to society; he who fails, is not amenable as a criminal, however erroneous his views may be, unless it plainly appears that his real object was not to improve or benefit mankind, but to produce public mischief and disorder, by alienating men's minds from their public or private duties by base or unworthy means, by destroying their religious faith, corrupting their morals, or instigating them to acts of sedition, tumult, and outrage, or to some other violation of the peace."

This author establishes that no man is punishable as a criminal for a publication made on an occasion which the interests of others, or even his own, fairly required him to make, or in which mankind possesses a common interest; and I contend that it is beyond all doubt that the article in question comes within the protection of that rule, which is based upon well-established principles of public policy.

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Mr. Carter then called the attention of the Court to the

INSUFFICIENCY OF THE CHARGES as set forth in the information. The article complained of was recited at full length in the information, but there were no *innuendoes* pointed out or explained what portions of the article were deemed libellous—in what manner they imported a libel—or in what way they applied to, or could affect the prosecutor. It is only where the libel charges or imputes the commission of a crime in a direct manner, that the *innuendoes* are not required; in every other case they are indispensable and must be proved.

Mr. Carter concluded by asking for the absolute discharge of his client.

Mr. Devlin replied. Although Mr. McGibbon was attacked in his private character and station, he desired to state that his client was not moved by passion. He thought he had a perfect right to open his house to his private friends without being held up to the public as a man who sought the occasion of the visit of His Excellency to corrupt the young men of the city. He had been led to believe that

the defendants would have adopted a different course, and would have apologized for having written the article in question; on the contrary, however, they had instructed their Counsel to resist to the utmost, because Mr. McGibbon permitted champagne in his own house. Mr. Carter in one breath stated Mr. McGibbon to be the party referred to in the article, and in another the Snow Shoe Clubs. It was patent to every one who had read the article that Mr. McGibbon was the person referred to, and that the Clubs were invited by him. Observe how full of malice they were. They allowed three weeks to pass for the public indignation to subside, and then published this indignant protest, sufficient he might say to set the town on fire, and then they go on to state, "It is impossible," &c., &c. And yet his learned friend, Mr. Carter, labored to prove that the prosecutor was not the entertainer. He did respect the advocates of temperance and the temperance cause. He submitted to no man in his respect for this cause, but he defied the right to look through the keyholes and spy into the houses of his friends to see what he drank with his friends, and he maintained that they destroyed the very object they had in view. He would say that Messrs. Douglass had no more right to give publicity to such statements than at a ball given by Sir Hugh Allan of the city of Montreal, at which tables there were as much champagne and wines drank as the guests thought fit. Why was it that every other citizen of Montreal was passed over, and that Mr. McGibbon's name should be brought up by every foul tongue? If the defendants were impartial they would deal out justice to the twelfth century on one side of the Mountain as well as to Mr. McGibbon on the other, and to his mind it was plain that this action was taken to gratify a feeling of revenge, for he could not see that any man who regarded the feelings of his neighbors should have the audacity to attack a private citizen. But we are told that there was no harm intended. He would simply ask if there was one man in Montreal who could read the words of that article as a compliment paid to Mr. McGibbon. We must have supposed that there had been some diabolical arrangement prepared to make the young men, as the *Witness* says, "pass through the horrors of hell." The question for His Honor to decide was, Is this libellous? Is it thus that a citizen is to be insulted by his fellowmen with impunity? We are told it was a public entertainment, and that the defendants had a right to make such comments as they pleased. We have been told that a man's home is his castle, and he would deny that it could be regarded as any other than a private entertainment. He was determined to see justice done to his client, who he added was a man connected with every patriotic society in the city, a man who has always helped the poor and obeyed the call of charity, who had risen step by step until he had attained an honorable independence. As to the conduct at Mr. McGibbon's residence, he did not think that there could be found one man who had a regard for the truth but that considered the entertainment a credit to our Snow Shoe Clubs, and that His Excellency left the house highly impressed with the hospitality of Mr. McGibbon. But when we come to speak of a man acting towards the young men of Montreal in such a manner as to cause them to pass next day through the horrors of hell, it would naturally be thought that Mr. McGibbon was one of the worst persons in Canada. He would ask that the defendant be committed to take his trial for libel.

Mr. Kerr—The points made by my learned friend Mr. Carter seem to be, 1st. That there is no libellous matter in the article complained of. 2nd. That even if there be what would be called libellous matter therein, the occasion which called forth its publication being a public one, and the remarks made being in the public interest, its criminal nature was destroyed.

The first point to which I wish to direct your Worship's attention is the law applicable to this case. I lay down as a proposition which cannot be denied, and which in fact has been admitted by my learned friend, that the law ruling this matter is the law of England on the subject of libel as it existed in that country at the time of the session. Consequently, we have to look into the old writers to discover what the law of libel was as regards criminal proceedings in the latter half of the last century. Up to the commencement of the last decade of the 18th century no statutory provision had been made affecting the offence at common law. By the 33 Geo. 3, C. 60, (1792) a slight change was made, giving the jury the right of deciding as to whether the article complained of was a libel or not, previous to that statute it being held that the judge alone could decide upon that question, the point of publication being for the consideration of the jury. With this amendment the law continued to be put in force until the passing of the 6 & 7 Vic., C. 96 (1843), entitled: "An Act to amend the law respecting defamatory words and libels." This act is generally known as "Lord Campbell's Libel Act."

By Sec. 6 of the last mentioned Act it is provided, "And he it enacted, that on the trial of any indictment or information for a defamatory libel, the defendant having pleaded such plea as hereinafter mentioned, the truth of the matters charged may be enquired into, but shall not amount to a defence, unless it was for the public benefit that the said matters charged should be published; and that to entitle the defendant to give evidence of the truth of such matters charged as a defence to such indictment or information, it shall be necessary for the defendant, in pleading to the said indictment or information, to allege the truth of the said matters charged in the manner now required in pleading a justification to an action for defamation; and, further, to allege that it was for the public benefit that the said matters charged should be published, and the particular fact or facts by reason whereof it was for the public benefit, that the said matters charged should be published, to which plea the prosecutor shall be at liberty to reply generally, denying the whole thereof; and that if, after such plea, the defendant shall be convicted on such indictment or information, it shall be competent to the Court in pronouncing sentence, to consider whether the guilt of the defendant is aggravated or mitigated by the said plea, and by the evidence given to prove or to disprove the same," &c.

Under the passing of the last cited statute it was impossible for the defendant to plead the truth of the libel and its public interest as a justification. The maxim of the English law was, "The greater the truth, the greater the libel." (3 Chitty's Criminal Law, 867.) And the annotator of the 6 & 7 Vic., C. 96, in his notes on the Sixth Section, which I have just read, says, "This is perhaps the most important section of the Act. The greater the truth, the greater the libel; can now no longer be considered a maxim of English law."

But in the Province of Quebec we have had no such legislation. The law here on the subject of the offence of libel is precisely the same as it was in England in 1764, and I now cite from 3 Chitty's Criminal Law, p. 867, the following passages to show what constituted under the English law in 1764, an indictable libel. "It is further to be collected that in order to constitute a libel, it is not necessary

that anything criminal should be imputed to the party injured; it is sufficient if the writer has exhibited him in a ludicrous point of view, has pointed him out as an object of ridicule or disgust, has, in short, done that which has a natural tendency to excite him to revenge, 2 Wils. 403, Bac. Abr. Libel A, 2; 4 Taunt. 355, 2 Camp. 214. And therefore, words in themselves not scandalous, become criminal if put in writing so that they tend in any degree to a man's discredit, Harw. 470, Bac. Abr. Libel A, 211."

I also beg to refer your Worship to Russell on Crimes, page 313, to establish that no change whatever has been worked in the definition of an indictable libel. Matter of justification may be pleaded, but under the authorities anything written and published reflecting discredit upon any person or tending to bring him into ridicule, contempt, or disgrace, subjects the publisher to an indictment for libel. Mansfield, C. J., in the case of Thorneycroft v. Lord Kerry, 4 Taunt. 361, delivering the opinion of the Court, said, "There is no doubt this is a libel for which the plaintiff in error might have been indicted and punished, because though the words impute no punishable crimes, they contain that sort of imputation which is calculated to vilify a man and bring him, as the books say, into hatred, contempt and ridicule; for all words of that description are indictable libels."

Under our law, then, the old maxim of the English law, "The greater the truth, the greater the libel," lives here, though dead in England. The authorities cited by my learned friend Mr. Carter have no application; they are based on the law as changed by the 6 & 7 Vic., cap. 96, or have reference solely to civil cases.

You are not here to make reforms in the law, you are bound to administer it as you find it. We may all regret our being behind the age; but the fault is not ours—it rests upon our legislators.

The article it is pretended is not libellous. Is it complimentary? Does it reflect discredit upon Mr. McGibbon? or does it neither compliment nor reflect discredit upon the complainant?

No one, I fancy, will say that Mr. McGibbon is lauded by its terms. It is impossible to say that if he has not been affected, the only conclusion which can be arrived at is that by it discredit is reflected upon him. Not only on him, I say, but on all concerned, from the Governor-General down. The complainant had a carouse in his private house; according to the article, it was a disgraceful scene to all concerned, amongst whom figured His Excellency the Governor-General.

I think, sir, that we are entitled to claim that the defendant be held to bail to answer this charge.

Mr. Carter rose to reply.

Mr. Judah—I can only allow a reply upon the law of the case and the authorities cited by Mr. Kerr.

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The Court then adjourned until Tuesday Feb. 25th, at noon, to render its decision.

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A large number of respectable citizens assembled in the Police Court at noon Tuesday to hear the decision.

On the case being called, Mr. Judah asked if both the defendants were before the Court.

Mr. Devlin replied that only one of the defendants was before the Court, Mr. John Redpath Douglass.

Mr. Judah—I did not know but that the other defendant had surrendered himself.

Mr. Devlin—He has not.

His Honor said the accusation was for libel, and continued:

On the 8th of February instant, a newspaper published in the City of Montreal called the *Daily Witness*, contained the following article headed, "Mistaken Generosity."

"Three weeks before the event it may be possible to treat with calmness a subject to which we have not hitherto dared to trust ourselves. It is impossible for us to say whether the Snow-Shoe Club or its entertainer was most to blame, or whether it was by accident or design that the youth of Montreal were brought into contact with an unlimited supply of champagne. Whoever may be responsible, the sad effects as manifested on the spot, it would, we are assured, be impossible to overstate. We pass over, however, the up-to-date consciousness of those to whom such scenes may have been familiar or pleasurable. We should regret to think that our snow-shoes associate with such by choice. But we grow indignant when we think of leading good for the first time in their lives excited by alcohol, some to make heavy their mothers' hearts, others to their irresponsible boarding-houses, where no notice would be taken of this first step in a journey which, in a certain proportion of cases, ends in ruin. The law of averages works with a fell certainty; and among those who take this first step, the percentage that go to destruction in the climate of Canada is, as we know, fearfully large. There may—we might almost say there will—be those yet reeling about our streets who will remember that fatal night with horror through their lives, if not through eternity. We hope those who thoughtlessly opened the doorway to this carouse will not in all their lives suffer what has already been suffered as the result of their mistake. There are those who since that day have passed through the horrors of hell, who that night yielded to a temptation which through months and years they had manfully resisted."

"We have had occasion of late to make special enquiry into the manners and customs of our principal snow-shoe clubs, and are pleased to learn that everything that will intoxicate is banished from their ordinary meetings, and that no drink is on hand at their races. On the other hand they make a mistake in choosing for their rendezvous houses where drink is obtainable and without any prohibition upon it, and also when they accept an invitation to a house with flowing cellars."

"Our whole community has observed with great admiration the very muscular encouragement which the Governor-General gives to all athletic sports, and the new ardor which he has awakened in favor of everything that can make the race manly. The example of

temperance which, like Prince Arthur, he sets before the community, has also been noted with satisfaction. It must be felt that it was a singular compliment to such a man to make him an actor in connection with such a disgraceful scene."

On the 13th day of February instant, Alexander McGibbon, of the city of Montreal, merchant, appeared before the Police Magistrate, Mr. Brehaut, and deposited before this Court an affidavit in writing, and therein stated under oath that during the recent visit of His Excellency the Governor-General to Montreal, a club comprised of young men, called "The Alexandra Snow-Shoe Club," desirous of affording His Excellency an opportunity of witnessing their winter amusements, solicited His Excellency to honor them with his presence upon a certain occasion, when they assembled for the purpose of marching on snow-shoes from Sherbrooke street across the Mountain to Cote St. Catherine. That His Excellency having kindly consented to their request, the said Alexandra Club, with other snow shoe clubs, assembled in Sherbrooke street on the 15th of January last, and after inspection by His Excellency the Governor-General, started with torchlights across the said side of the Mountain to the private residence of the said A. McGibbon, known as Thornbury, at Cote St. Catherine. That upon that occasion His Excellency the Governor-General, desirous of evincing the interest he takes in the development of many exercises, did the said A. McGibbon the honor of meeting the said snow-shoe clubs at his house. That on Saturday, the 8th day of February instant, John Douglass and John Redpath Douglass, both of the city of Montreal, proprietors and publishers of the newspaper called the *Daily Witness*, doing business as such proprietors and publishers at Montreal aforesaid, on the said day and year aforesaid, did print and publish in their said newspaper a false, scandalous and defamatory article or statement, entitled and headed "Mistaken Generosity," which article or statement is in the words following (the above-mentioned article was then read):

"The article it is pretended is not libellous. Is it complimentary? Does it reflect discredit upon Mr. McGibbon? or does it neither compliment nor reflect discredit upon the complainant?"

No one, I fancy, will say that Mr. McGibbon is lauded by its terms. It is impossible to say that if he has not been affected, the only conclusion which can be arrived at is that by it discredit is reflected upon him. Not only on him, I say, but on all concerned, from the Governor-General down. The complainant had a carouse in his private house; according to the article, it was a disgraceful scene to all concerned, amongst whom figured His Excellency the Governor-General.

I think, sir, that we are entitled to claim that the defendant be held to bail to answer this charge.

Mr. Carter rose to reply.

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TERMS OF OUR PUBLICATIONS.

DAILY WITNESS (By Mail, \$5.00 per annum; \$1.00 delivered in town. Single copies, 10c. each.)
 MONTREAL WITNESS (By Mail, \$5.00 per annum; \$1.00 delivered in town. Single copies, 10c. each.)
 WEEKLY WITNESS, \$1.00 per annum; Single copies, 10c. each.
 ADVERTISING:—By the day, 10c. per line; by the week, 60c. per line; by the month, \$1.50 per line; by the quarter, \$4.00 per line; by the half year, \$7.50 per line; by the year, \$12.00 per line.
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JOHN DOUGALL & SON,
 MONTREAL.

The Witness.

FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 1873.

TEMPERANCE AND THE PRESS.

The temperance cause owes much to the press for its advocacy and spread. When the venerable Dr. Lyman Beecher commenced the movement nearly half a century ago, with his famous "Six Sermons on Temperance," their publication electrified the whole country. Afterwards that "old warhorse," Dr. Chace, first brought himself into note by writing "Deacon Giles's Dream." It was naturally thought by the magistrates of the old school that if he was to become a "dreamer of dreams," like Bunyan, a prison was the proper place for him to dream in; but the reform, by this persecution, only entered on a new era. The influence of the press was second in those early days only to that of the pulpit in helping on this enterprise.

To that period there succeeded another, when the various temperance orders established their official organs. The influence of such special advocates is of course limited. Lately, however, both in England and here, temperance has commanded attention to the public press at large. Its existence can no longer be ignored. Its benefit and necessity is not able now to be disputed. And even the London Times has lent its powerful influence in favor of reforming in some way the frightful drinking usages of society.

One great benefit of the large and enthusiastic meetings held in the city this week is that by the full reports that have been published they are shared in by the whole country. The spirit and results of these meetings were eminently satisfactory, and afford a gratifying indication of the progress already made. When temperance is brought before Parliament, through the reports of their proceedings it will come again before the country. Thus it is that the people are educated on these questions. The press, we feel assured, will not come behind the pulpit and platform in contributing its share to this good work.

THE WITNESS LIBEL CASE.

We have done all in our power to give the public a fair view of the libel case now before the Courts, as it is a matter of great public importance. Libel proceedings against papers have not, we believe, been known in Montreal for a generation. We have had many actions for damages entered against us, but none have gone on. Criminal proceedings are almost an anachronism. It is, therefore, of the utmost importance that the public should know just where we stand. We have been careful to reprint everything that has in any quarter been said against the Witness in this matter as well as some of what has been said in its favor. Principal in the former class is the decision of the magistrate, Thomas S. Judah, Esq., J. P., of which we had only room for an abridgment last night, but have given the full text to-day. We shall not either criticize or characterize that judicial statement, but will simply subjoin one or two extracts from the reports of the proceedings, quoting from the *Gazette*.

At the preliminary investigation the following discussion took place:—

Mr. Carter—I refer to that, because Mr. McGibbon takes credit to himself as being some great man, and we know that in matters of libel, if you libel a great man it takes very little to subject you to punishment, and I want to show that Mr. McGibbon disappears entirely from the entertainment as a private individual, and that it was essentially a public entertainment.

Mr. Judah—By doing that you are travelling out of the question, which I think is all we have to do with, that is, whether there is evidence to establish a *prima facie* case of libel. There is no necessity for you to go into all these questions to-day. Narrow it down, if you please.

Mr. Carter—If your Worship will allow me to show why I contend that these questions are relevant, I can show by authority if this was a public entertainment.

Mr. Judah—That is going on the merits. Mr. Carter—I want to establish the point of law. It is an object for me to prove that this was a public entertainment, for I have authorities to cite to your Worship that if it was a public entertainment the article could not be a libel under any circumstances. If I get an answer to show that this was a public entertainment, then I cite my law to show that there was no libel.

Mr. Judah—But on Mr. Devlin's objection that the question is irrelevant, I have no difficulty in ruling that it is so, and has nothing to do with the sole question before me. Whether it is a libel or not, may be brought on at trial, but I'm not going into that in this investigation. I am here to decide whether there is *prima facie* evidence of a libel, and I am not going to decide whether the honor of entertaining the Governor-General belonged to the show-shoe club or any one else.

Mr. Carter—But if Mr. McGibbon says that the Governor-General came upon his invitation, we say it is untrue.

Mr. Judah—I have nothing to do with the invitation to the Governor-General. Mr. McGibbon swears in his examination in chief that he invited him, but you cannot cross-

examine upon it. If I had presided when the deposition was made I would have asked Mr. Devlin to make it much shorter.

Mr. Carter—Then your Honor will not allow me to prove that this was a public entertainment, and not a private one?

Mr. Judah—I cannot sit here and allow you to do that.

Mr. Carter (to witness)—Was the entertainment that took place at your house a public entertainment?

Mr. Judah—Do you object to that?

Mr. Devlin did, and the objection was maintained.

Mr. Judah in his decision uses the following words:

"If it was a public meeting and the remarks of the journal contained only such criticism as the public in the public interest had a right to expect from a public journalist, then the defendant would be entitled to a full discharge at my hands. Festive reunions are of two sorts—the public ball, or entertainment, and the private ball, or party. To the first, you are admitted by payment of a certain fee; to the second, you can only go on invitation. Has the defendant laid before me any proof that the public were only admitted on the occasion to Mr. McGibbon's house or grounds, on payment of a certain fee? The defendant is represented there by two leading members of the Bar, who know perfectly well the necessity and importance of proving such a material fact; therefore, in the absence of any such proof, and seeing that in the article in question the defendant calls Mr. McGibbon the entertainer, and the affidavit of the complainant, it was a purely private arrangement, I, therefore, say that the occasion was a private meeting."

The sale of tickets is only one of the facts which go to make an occasion a public one, and Mr. Judah quoted no authority or dictionary to show it to be an essential one. It was certainly part of the evidence which Mr. Judah shut out.

We stand at the people's judgment seat, where we shall be honorably judged in this matter.

DISGRACEFUL WORK.

We to-day give an account from the *Quebec Chronicle* of the rioting that accompanied the nomination for the Eastern District of the city. These scenes of violence occurring so regularly at elections have given the Ancient Capital an unenviable notoriety. Repeated experience and remonstrance seems to have had no effect in moving the authorities to adopt measures to prevent them, and in view of the city being on nomination and election days metamorphosed into a theatre of assassination and riot, it would be little regretted if it was deprived of electoral rights which are the occasion of so much disorder. *L'Evening* positively and emphatically lays the blame for all Monday's mischief upon the Hon. Mr. Langevin in the first place, and his candidate, Mr. Philéas Huet, in the second. Knowing that they had no chance of defeating Mr. Pantaléon Pelletier, the candidate of the Parti National, in a fair contest, it charges that Huet's friends, in obedience to a telegraphic despatch from Mr. Langevin, to carry the election by all means, conspired to cause his defeat by intimidation, and the subsequent violence and disorder was the result of their measures; and seeing they could not hinder Mr. Pelletier from arriving at the scene, they tried to prevent the nomination by breaking down the hustings. Certain it is that Mr. Pelletier was fired at, and had a narrow escape from being killed. *Le Canadien*, Mr. Langevin's organ, on the other hand, completely denies the assertions of *L'Evening*. It asks who could believe that a man of so high a position as Mr. Langevin would dare to use the telegraph to connote so wicked an idea, and states that the three men shot were all partisans of Mr. Huet. It is therefore unfair, *Le Canadien* argues, to place the blame of the riots on one party more than another, and it joins all good citizens in demanding that energetic measures be taken to preserve order at the polls. From these conflicting statements it is not easy to determine precisely where the blame lies. The truth seems to be that there is a lower stratum of blackguardism in Quebec capable of being stirred up when occasion requires, and the powers that be, in so long tolerating this state of things, lay themselves open to inevitable suspicion.

THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RR.

The *Globe* publishes a lengthy correspondence between the Dominion Government and the two former companies—the Intercolonial, or Macpherson, and the Canada Pacific or Allan—chartered to build the Canadian Pacific railway. It results from a request by the Government that both companies would amalgamate and form one company in terms of the tenth section of the Act, and this being done negotiations would be opened with the amalgamated concern for the construction of the line. In reply the Directors of the Macpherson Company refused, to entertain the proposal to amalgamate and proceeded to argue that while their company was purely Canadian and looked solely to Canada and Britain as the sources from which its means were to be drawn, the Allan Company was associated with American capitalists, especially the promoters of the Northern Pacific RR., who if that Company got the contract for building the Canadian line would exercise an influence prejudicial to Dominion interests, one result of which it was alleged would be the withholding of the lands granted the Canadian road from being opened for settlement until those belonging to the Northern Pacific RR. were disposed of. The Macpherson Company therefore offered to construct the line themselves. To this a reply was made by the Allan Company expressing their willingness to carry out the proposed amalgamation, and combating several of the assertions of the Macpherson Co. The truth seems to be that in 1871 the promoters of a Canadian Pacific line feeling discouraged with the small support accorded them from Canadian capitalists and desiring to have such an important railroad built by some means or other opened negotiations for the purpose with Americans. Mr. Wadlington was the promoter of this project. The Committee of the Privy Council in

their report on this correspondence state that while the above negotiations were going on, a member of the Government happened, during a casual visit to Montreal, to meet Sir Hugh Allan, when he informed him of the proposition which had been made, and mentioned to him the names of the Americans who had made the proposition to the Government. He expressed to Sir Hugh Allan his regret that such a work should be allowed to fall into the hands of foreigners, owing to the apathy of Canadian capitalists. It was after and in consequence of this conversation, that Sir Hugh Allan put himself in communication with the American gentlemen already referred to.

"His object was to secure the construction of the work under Canadian management, no doubt being entertained that there would be no difficulty in finding safeguards against the dangers anticipated by the Intercolonial Company. Such were the circumstances under which Sir Hugh Allan's connection with the American capitalists took place. Sir Hugh Allan was the first Canadian capitalist who made a proposition for the construction of the line."

The upshot, as already known, was that Government determined to favor neither of the competing companies, but use the powers vested in them to charter a new company.

On the whole the correspondence does not seem to possess much more than a merely historical interest, and it is not easy to see how it can do any harm to the Company now chartered to build the Canadian Pacific, for whose detriment it is understood its publication was undertaken. Sir Hugh Allan is simply proved to have stepped in at a point when the scheme threatened to pass almost entirely into American hands, and to have interested himself to make it a Canadian enterprise so far as its management is concerned. Where the capital may come from is a matter of no moment; and if Americans are willing to put their money into the undertaking there is no reason to prevent them. It shows at least a confidence on their part in the enterprise very reassuring after the various articles that have appeared in U.S. papers trying to prove the impossibility of its execution. There is no doubt that the country as a whole confides in the ability and integrity of the new company to fulfil its obligations, and the Directors, composed as they are of members of both the former competing companies, should meet every encouragement in pushing on the construction of this great transcontinental highway. The delegation that left Bonaventure Station last Friday en route to England to provide the means for this, may prove to be the most important mission that has ever been sent from Canada.

THANKS.

We have to acknowledge with feelings of gratitude the numerous expressions of sympathy in connection with the prosecution against the *Witness* towards us by a very large number of the newspapers and various Temperance and other organizations, as well as private individuals all over the Dominion, with which every mail comes loaded. The offers of substantial assistance accompanying the condolences of so many friends of the *Witness*, prove how heartfelt their sympathy must be. The newspapers, with one or two exceptions, support us in the position we have taken, and the article which has caused the proceedings has been printed all over the Dominion. Every article hostile to ourselves we have been careful to introduce. We notice errors of fact in nearly all the articles, the correction of which would lend our case additional strength. The gathering was not one of a single club, but of the snow-shoe clubs of Montreal, being previously announced by the following advertisement, and reported in full in the next morning's papers:

THE TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION.
 Will start from McGill College Gate on Wednesday, 13th inst., at 8 o'clock.
 Members of sister clubs can obtain tickets and torches on application to any member of the Alexander Committee, or 21 St. Sebastian street.
 The number of tickets are necessarily limited, and those desirous of obtaining them should do so at once.

ARTHUR BIRKS, Sec.-Treas.

THE CENSUS.

The *Gazette* has received advance sheets of the first volume of the census from the Department at Ottawa. It finds a good deal of fault with the manner in which the details have been manipulated, and the reading of its criticism leaves a rather unsatisfactory feeling behind, and by no means tends to raise Dr. Taché in public estimation as a statistician. One point of the *Gazette's* seems well taken, and that is the determination shown by the census authorities to compel every one to assign themselves some other origin than American or Canadian. It says:—"According to this census there are no people living in Canada of either Canadian or American origin. A hundred years ago colonists from the thirteen colonies, loyal to the British Crown, settled in these northern provinces; their children and their children's children have occupied prominent positions in Canada since that time. But the census ignores their existence. The unfortunate descendant of a U. E. Loyalist must perforce trace back his origin to the third or fourth generation, or he must fall back upon the alternative of 'various other origins' or the 'not given.'"

We have been told that Dr. Taché argues that European statistics have not come to put down American or Canadian as an origin in their statistics, and that, therefore, he was justified in omitting them. All we can say in reply is, that the census of Canada is got out for the Canadian people, not for European statistics, and it was an insult to the country that pays him his salary thus to ignore it in a matter of so great importance.

We give the following interesting items from the *Gazette's* article:—

Turning to the tables we find that the total number of families in the Dominion of Canada was 622,719; the population was divided pretty evenly between male and female, males numbering 1,764,311; females, 1,721,450. The populations by religious is so classified as to bring the different branches of each denomination under one general head, and Dr. Taché explains that in doing this he was guided

by the advice of the ministers of the different denominations. We have great fault to find with one feature of the classification. Roman Catholics are put down simply as Catholics. Now, the Protestant church claims to be the Catholic church just as much as do our Roman Catholic fellow-citizens, and the assumption of this title by Dr. Taché for his own religious faith is an assumption which it is not entitled to. They should have been put down as Roman Catholics, as they are. The population of the Dominion divided into the two great classes of Roman Catholics and Protestants numbers—of the former 1,492,029, and for the latter 1,993,732. The largest bodies among the Protestant population are the Methodists Presbyterians and Church of England, which stand numerically in the order in which we have placed them. Thus the Methodists are Methodists of all classes, number 567,291; the Presbyterians, 514,998; the Church of England, 494,049. Among the Methodists the Wesleyans are by far the most numerous, numbering 378,543; the Episcopal Methodists comes next with 93,958. Among the Presbyterians the Canada and Lower Provinces, (whatever the latter denomination may mean, for we think it a new one in church nomenclature,) number 341,561; and the members of the Church of Scotland come next with 107,259. Under the generic term of Baptists appears a total of 239,343, the "Baptists proper" numbering 165,238. The minor denominations not included under these general heads are Congregationalist with a roll of 21,829, Greeks, who number only 18, 13 persons return themselves at Mahometans, 854 as Swedenborgians, 1,112 as Irvingites, 1,115 as Jews, 2,275 as Unitarians, 4,896 as Universalists, 7,345 as Quakers, 10,146 Protestants; those without creed are divided into 5,146 "no religion," 409 Deists and only 20 "Atheists"; 17,955 give no answer to the questions regarding their religious beliefs.

Coming to the origins as given in this volume we find the largest set down as French, numbering 1,082,940; Irish come next, numbering 846,414; English follow with 706,369; then Scotch with 549,916. The Germans in Canada number 202,991, Dutch, 29,662, African, 21,496; Indian is set down at 23,035, Welsh at 7,773, Swiss at 2,962. The others are divided up into smaller numbers, the lowest being Half-Breeds, 2, and next, 11 Hindoos. The most remarkable table, especially when it is remembered that Canadian is not considered worthy of being classed as an origin, is that in relation to the birthplaces of the people. Out of the population of Canada, 2,892,763 were born within the Dominion, leaving only 592,998 persons of foreign birth. Ontario has about as many native-born Canadians in it to-day as there are in the Province of Quebec, the numbers being respectively 1,138,794 and 1,147,664. These figures, especially those of Ontario and the Maritime Provinces, show how utterly monstrous it is to pretend to give the origin of the people of Canada while ignoring Canadian as an origin.

POSTAGE ON NEWSPAPERS.

Commenting on the demand for the abolition of postage on newspapers, which it opposes on the ground that "there is no reason why Government should take a man his newspaper, than it should take him anything else without payment of freight," the *Globe* makes the following suggestion:—"There is a way, however, of collecting that postage which would be much more advantageous to the Department and would permit of a great reduction in the rate without lowering the revenue. At present it is found impossible to keep proper accounts of newspaper postage, and the effect is that much of the nominal revenue is lost. We believe that the department would gain by levying a yearly amount from newspaper publishers in proportion to the circulation of their journals—such circulation to be ascertained by sworn affidavits—upon the rate for each paper. All necessity for keeping minute accounts would be obviated; the revenue would be no loser; while both publisher and subscriber would be benefited. Thirty years ago, this was the custom in Canada, and we should be glad to see a return to it."

We consider this a very good plan in default of the concession of an absolutely free delivery. It would, there is little doubt, increase the Post Office revenue by saving to it large sums at present lost to it by defalcations under the present system, and the expense of measures to detect these. We have always held, however, that newspapers specially intended for the benefit of the farming interest, and which contain no advertisements except in relation to post-free publications, should be allowed free transmission through the mails. This would be a great boon to the backwoods settlers, and would, in placing within their reach cheap and valuable means of information as to agriculture, &c., combined with literature of an improving and elevating character, ultimately tend to the benefit of the country. We believe this also was a custom in Canada some years ago, and should be glad to see it too revived.

MANUFACTURED NEWS.

In connection with the commission of enquiry into the Court House fire which has been sitting at Quebec for some time past, some matters have been brought to light showing the way a newspaper may be victimized by correspondents. Among the witnesses examined was the correspondent of the *Globe*, who confessed that he never saw the fire or heard of it till it was all over, nor had he heard anything as to its origin, yet he telegraphed the last mentioned paper as follows:—

"Ugly rumors are afloat respecting the cause of the Court House fire, and the desire of the authorities to cloak the matter. It is stated that some of the officials had access after hours to the building, and it is reported that on the very night of the fire a carouse was kept up to a late hour in one of the offices."

Being asked what foundation there was for this statement about "ugly rumors," the correspondent mentioned something he thought he remembered Mr. Oliver, of the *Mercury*, telling him, "in connection with the appointment of Mr. Macdams as Emigration Agent, that the Government were anxious to get him and others, whom he did not mention, out of the way, so that they might not appear before this Commission, as they knew that a spree had been kept up in Mr. Dugan's office to a late hour that Saturday night. I did not place much reliance upon the statement, but as it had a political tendency, and was of a damaging nature to the Government, I gave it currency. I cannot mention any other name than Mr. Oliver's, as justifying the state-

ments in my telegram to the *Globe*, nor do I recollect any other person who made such a statement to me."

Mr. Oliver on being examined admitted having conversed with the *Globe's* correspondent on the subject of the fire, and mentioned that he had heard rumors of a desire on the part of the authorities to cloak the matter, but denied having stated that a carouse or anything of the kind was kept up till a late hour in one of the offices, or that he had used Mr. Macdams' name, or said that Government wished to get rid of any person in connection with the matter. Mr. Oliver also stated that he had heard that some of the officials had access to the building after hours, but he could not mention the names of any persons who had told him such things, and had personally no knowledge of them. He added that "the said John Jordan, being correspondent of the *Toronto Globe*, takes every opportunity of concocting his telegrams for political purposes. Although I did my best to discover some foundation for the matters stated in his telegram of the fourteenth instant to the *Globe* newspaper, I have never found any."

One of the hardest tasks of a conscientious newspaper editor is the winnowing of the chaff of error and exaggeration from the mass of matter he has to deal with, so as to provide his readers as far as possible with nothing but facts; and the difficulty and laboriousness of this work is aggravated by such practices as are above exposed of giving baseless notions for ascertained facts, from the mere desire of making political capital or exciting a sensation. Among a certain class of New York papers, owing to the popular demand for sensational news, this evil has attained such grievous proportions that at a late German fancy ball one of the characters represented was a large fat duck, or *canard*, carrying on its back a newspaper reporter. It is a pity to see a respectable profession brought into such disrepute by unworthy members thereof.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

CONFEDERATION NEGOTIATIONS.

The present delegation to Ottawa antecedent to the admission of Prince Edward Island to the Confederation is an episode in negotiations that have been proceeding for some time between the Canadian Government and the Government of that colony. The preliminaries were settled as far as possible by correspondence. The *Globe's* Ottawa correspondent says the issue is purely one of material business arrangement. The question upon which the negotiations were before broken off will be the leading one now to be discussed. The tenure of the Island is in an unsatisfactory state, the whole of the lands being held in large blocks by non-residents, who, through their impracticable policy, make the condition of the holders, and their relation to the country, in effect not unlike the state of things created by the seigniorial tenure of Lower Canada. About \$800,000, it is estimated, will be required to extinguish this objectionable tenure, after legislation to compel the proprietors to come to reasonable terms has been passed.

The other point upon which an understanding must be arrived at is furnished by the public works of the Island being wholly isolated from the Dominion. They contend that they can have no direct benefit from the extensive public works of the Dominion to which as a member of the Confederacy, they will be called upon to contribute. As a set off to their liability for the public works of the Dominion, they will propose that the latter should assume their public works, of which a railway now being constructed is the principal item. The total debt which they will propose the Dominion should assume will be about \$3,000,000. They do not object that it should be understood while they are not suing to be admitted into the Confederacy and while they have no idea of sacrificing any interests of theirs for the mere sentiment of union that they are anxious to unite with the Dominion upon equitable terms.

THE NORTHERN COLONIZATION RAILWAY.

A number of documents have been sent to the Government at Ottawa in support of the application on the part of some of the citizens of Montreal, for the disallowance, by the Governor-General, of the Act of the Provincial Legislature of Quebec, passed for the purpose of giving validity to the proceedings on the Million Dollar Grant of this city. Amongst these documents is a petition of these individuals, proprietors of real estate in the city, setting forth the steps they had already taken in the Quebec Parliament, in opposition to the legislation by that body to confirm and give effect to the Million Dollar Bill; and concluding by praying that His Excellency the Governor-General, in the exercise of the powers and authority conferred by the British North America Act, disallow the said act passed by the Legislature of the Province of Quebec, intitled, "An act to confirm certain by-laws authorizing subscriptions of stock in the Montreal Colonization Railway Company." The legal reasons for the disallowance of the act in question are given with great fullness.

GREAT FORGERIES.—From London comes the news that a system of gigantic frauds on the Bank of England has been discovered, through a series of skillful forgeries of bills of Rothschild & Co., and other great financial houses. The discovery was made by the former detecting a difference in the color of the ink used for the bogus bills, which were otherwise so cleverly executed, however, as to have defied detection. An American named Warren, alias Horton, was suspected of being the perpetrator, but subsequent intelligence points to a ring of American swindlers as the guilty parties. The Bank of England cautions the public against negotiating certain United States Bonds to the amount of \$220,000, probably part of the proceeds of the forgeries; but nothing has yet been learned as to their extent, owing to the reticence of all concerned. The large sum of £2,500 offered as a reward for the detection of the forgers, shows that the frauds must have been very considerable, and the police will doubtless tax their ingenuity and resources to the utmost to endeavor to win so rich a prize. Later news reports the probable amount of the frauds as about one million dollars.

THE WILSON COMMITTEE'S REPORT.—This Committee has submitted a report recommending a law suit to recover what was lost to the Government by the Union Pacific Railroad speculations, which action is looked on by many as locking the stable door after the steed has been stolen. The Committee reports that the road, though imperfectly built, cost \$50,000,000; \$23,000,000 of which in subsidies and lands were divided amongst those who were acting as trustees for the Government. It recommends, therefore, that the Railroad Company be prosecuted in equity and made to disgorge this plunder. It would include also as parties defendant with them, those who did not pay their subscriptions of stock in full, and all who got bonds and dividends to which they were not entitled in equity, or who appropriated wrongfully to themselves profits to which the Government was entitled. This would include the case of the Congressmen implicated in the Credit Mobilier affair. The report of the Committee also recommends to punish any such breach of trust in future by a fine of \$5,000 and two years imprisonment. This report is altogether too just, not to say severe, to be adopted by a Congress who can hardly be expected to act impartially in judging themselves.

THE NEAPOLITAN BABY RING.—Pirro and Margarita Coraldi, the baby farmers of Naples, concerning whose atrocious murders of infants committed to their care we have already briefly informed our readers, have expiated their crimes on the block. Pirro made a confession of her crimes of the most heart-breaking nature, and the subsequent avowals of Margarita Coraldi were no less terrible. Coraldi goes even so far as to state that it was she who conceived the fiendish design of poisoning the infants or starving them to death, and despatching the little corpses beneath the tiles of the floors, the earth of the cellar, or within the walling of the very rooms in which they sat, played music, sang, eat, and slept. The removal of the paping of these walls has since revealed this ghastly truth. After a hasty trial the criminals were condemned to be beheaded, and the sentence was carried out within the precincts of the Castello Nuovo, on the edge of the Bay of Naples, by a headman and axe. The condemned were attended by nuns and received the *viaticum*, and a mass was performed for them.

RUSSIA—DANGEROUS REVOLT.—It is probable Russia will find it necessary to cut short her operations in Central Asia and hastily patch up some kind of arrangement there in order to attend to affairs on her eastern boundary. A telegraph item dated St. Petersburg, 22nd inst., announcing a serious revolt in the Ukraine, is confirmed by one from Vienna announcing the outbreak of a Socialist rebellion in the Polish Provinces of Volhynia and Podolia which has attained such dimensions that a Russian force was defeated and the insurgents are reported committing frightful atrocities. These two Provinces contain each a population of over a million and a half, mostly Poles, are very fertile, and are comprehended in the old division of the Ukraine. This is a most dangerous outbreak for Russia and may result in fighting up afresh the flames of rebellion throughout Poland.

COPERNICUS.—Warsaw celebrated on the 19th inst. the four hundredth anniversary of the birth of Nicholas Copernicus. The festival is the tribute of modern thought to the greatness of the scientific discoverer. To his own townsfolk, Copernicus was a shy priest, absorbed in his office, in the practice of medicine among the poor, and in secret and strange studies. His only legacy to his country was a new planetary system, which the Church condemned and which the world was too ignorant to care for. A hundred soldiers, kings, and prelates strutted their brief, conspicuous hour in Poland, and felt that without their existence society would have been done for, while the studious recluses pondered tables in his lonely tower, a less significant figure to his time than the ciphers in his computations. Now a nation does him honor and the names of his contemporaries survive on tombs and in the untorn leaves of cyclo-pædias.

MRS. MARTINE IN NEW YORK.—On Tuesday night a meeting of citizens was held in New York, at the call of the Committee of Seventy, to oppose the rule of a new Ring which has taken the place of Tammany. Cooper Institute was packed on the occasion, and the audience was as remarkable for its respectability as its numbers. It was conspicuous for the absence of the Irish, and the presence of the German voters. Stirring addresses were delivered by such men as Mr. Choate, Parke Goodwin and Professor Dwight. Strong resolutions were passed sustaining the Mayor and denouncing the unprincipled combination that seeks to usurp his powers in order to plunder the citizens. The masses appear to be in earnest, and it is to be hoped that the designs of the Custom House politicians under the lead of Murphy, which have been so fully exposed, will be foiled.

MASSACHUSETTS REBUCKING SUMNER.—The Massachusetts Legislature recently passed resolutions of censure on Charles Sumner, for the introduction into the U. S. Congress of his resolution to expunge the names of battle-fields of the civil war from regimental colors. This action at once excited a universal feeling of shame, and petitions from leading men of the State, including Gov. Lowell, Whittier, and other names of note, were at once sent in, asking the Legislature to cancel these resolutions. This will now probably be done. The press expresses the utmost indignation at the way the Legislature has treated an honored Senator, and suggests that it should rather have kept its reproaches for Oakes Ames, and other Massachusetts representatives implicated in the Credit Mobilier scandal.

MR. FROUDE.—The Cincinnati Commercial says that Mr. Froude, who returned home under much anxiety for the health of his daughter, Miss Rose Froude, has now the satisfaction of knowing that she may recover, and has returned from Ramsgate, where he at first went, to mingle again with his friends. He expresses the greatest delight in his recent visit to America, and has a hundred charming anecdotes and experiences with which he sets "the table in a roar." He says—somewhat to the surprise of many a listener—that he likes the Americans far better than he expected when he went, and that he did not meet a single vulgar person in the country. He uses "vulgar" in the sense it bears in England generally—that of snobbery and affectation.

THE LOCAL MINISTRY.—The *Nouveau Monde* gives the following as the composition of the new Ministry under the lead of Hon. Mr. Oulmet:—

Hon. G. Oulmet, Provincial Secretary and Minister of Public Instruction; Hon. G. Irvine, Attorney-General; Hon. Mr. Chapleau, Solicitor-General; Hon. L. Archambault, Commissioner of Public Works; Hon. P. Fortin, Commissioner of Crown Lands; Hon. Mr. Robertson, Treasurer; Hon. Dr. Ross, President of the Council.

The *Nouveau Monde* italicizes the names of Messrs. Chapleau and Ross, and predicts all manner of evil consequences to the new Ministry on account of their presence therein. That is because they oppose the *Programme Catholique*.

PROPOSED CANAL.—It seems the survey for the proposed canal on the north bank of the St. Lawrence, between the Cascades and Coeur Landing, of which we formerly gave some account, is completed. This has been accomplished through the efforts of Mr. Lantier. The making of the proposed canal is strongly recommended as being calculated to give better accommodation to trade than the Beauharnois Canal on the opposite shore, the enlargement of which to suit the growing requirements of traffic is declared to be impossible, or at such an expense as rather to warrant the construction of a new and more convenient outlet.

THE QUEBEC EAST LOCAL ELECTION.—Five hundred completely armed men, foot, horse, artillery, and police, with rifle and ball cartridge, with cannons having grape and canister in their barrels grinning around the Citadel gate, secured order and quietness in Quebec on Monday last, being the first day of the election. In the afternoon a polling booth was torn down and the books destroyed, but no further mischief was done. Pelletier (Opposition) rolled up a majority of 426, and Huot (Government) retired from the contest. The second day was very quiet and polling went on, resulting in the victory of Pelletier by an aggregate majority of 837 votes.

RENEWAL OF N. Y. STRIKE.—One of the New York papers has been sending round a reporter to enquire into the rumor of a proposed general strike of the workmen of that city and vicinity, next spring, for the enforcement of the eight hour rule, or an advance of wages. The result of careful enquiry is said to show that the movement of the workmen is already well under way, and bids fair to become quite formidable within the next three months. The different Trades-Union organizations are making every effort to fill up their ranks and replenish their treasuries with funds for the contemplated struggle. The leaders claim that their defeat last year was owing to a want of organized and judicious effort, and say they mean to remedy this defeat in the forthcoming movement of the eight hour rule or an increase of wages. The proprietors of the large manufacturing establishments, so far as known, intend to firmly resist the demands of the workmen. A stubborn struggle, it is said, may be expected.

QUEBEC TEMPERANCE AND PROHIBITORY LEAGUE.—The Executive Committee.—The following gentlemen have been elected to act with the President, Treasurer and Secretary, as the Executive, for the ensuing year:—Revs. Dr. Burns, S. J. Hunter, James McCaul, Messrs. G. W. Weaver, T. H. Schneider, T. S. Brown, G. A. Sargent, E. Irwin, J. H. Timmis and J. B. Macdonald.

—Henry Ward Beecher's speech at the Tyndall dinner in New York has called forth a good deal of criticism in the religious press, writers like Dr. Cuyler charging him with "hauling down the flag" on that occasion, when even a prominent layman, Parke Goodwin, was found willing to "stand up for Jesus."

—Mr. Colfax is left, like a vessel that had long proudly rode the waves, stranded on the beach, high and dry. He can have neither justice nor mercy. Impediment itself is denied him on the ground of a technicality. It is alleged that he cannot be constitutionally tried for misdemeanors committed previous to his Vice-Presidency, though the principal charges made against him cover his term of office.

—Mr. Willis, editor and proprietor of the St. John, N. B., *Daily News* and lately leader of the Opposition in the Local House, has entered the Local Government, and states his reason for this step to be that the Free School law has now become the most important question and on that he is in accord with the Government, while the Anti-School law section of the Opposition has refused to observe the condition on which he joined them, that condition being that the school question should be considered as settled.

—Mr. Judah asked why we did not condemn in like manner the Citizens' Ball, where there were ten young men for one that was at the snow-shoe fete, that is, we should calculate, from 3,000 to 6,000. We did not hear that there had been so many there, nor do we suppose that if there were, they were principally youths under age, say from fifteen upward, nor that when they went there their parents supposed them to be out for a torchlight procession, nor did we hear that there were any of them obscenely unruly. If such were the case we must express our horror of such doings in the name of loyalty.

—Butler managed on Monday night to smuggle through the U.S. House of Representatives the Bill for raising the salaries of the President, Congress, and certain other officials. Though the Bill has much in its favor, it was sprung on a thin House, in the absence of those opposed to it, and contains a virtual bribe to the present Congress in granting them back pay at the increased rate, and allowing them also mileage, which privilege for the future it abolishes. Honorable members are charged with following Butler like a flock of sheep; but they know that he led the way to the public crib.

LICENSED TO SELL.

The following are extracts from a sermon recently preached by Canon Baldwin, in Christ Church Cathedral, on "the Temptations of Young Men":—

We pass the respectable portion of the city where there is nothing to be seen but the homes and residences of good people, and now we go to the busy life, where in the great world shows its face, and here, just like so many animals hunting for prey, are to be seen the temptations of life. Look about, and observe this sign post, if you please, and read

LICENSED TO SELL SPIRITUOUS LIQUORS.

What does it mean? We do not know. We will pass on a little distance further; licensed to sell spirituous liquors. Going on we meet it again; last of all, we become curious and want to know what it means. It must be something terrible; I meet with an honest shop here and there, but

LICENSED TO SELL.

I meet everywhere; where honest men cannot live, it seems other men can live. We watch it in every place, and every street we find filled with, licensed to sell. Let us go in, and look around, and find out. We go in, and find crowded around a miserable counter a number of idlers, vagabonds and ruffians, with no object in life except to idle, and fill life's term with their pernicious wickedness and depravity. And why are they here? Because here they are lashed to a foe; here the grave lies beaten to an intense heat, till it glows like the furnace of the Ring, simply to carry out the objects the devil made it do to increase vice, to encourage iniquity, to be a curse and a pestilence and a wrong in the midst of our community. The question then is, who licensed these establishments? Who gave the right to any one to create a plague in our midst? Who gave the right to allow any one to draw down into a deeper hell the thousands that crowd our streets?

LICENSED TO SELL!

They have the devil's license—that is certain; but the question is, who licensed them here? The devil would license every place in the city for that object, but who licensed them here? Can you point to the city and say, it did it? It is unfair to any body of men to be singled out as objects of scorn. They are licensed to sell by you all—by the community at large; not any one corporation, but by the community, by the public at large, by the great mass of the people, who constitute society in general. Now the question is, Why is it done? Are these places licensed to sell, to pay? Is this necessary? Does it mean blood money? Does it mean that this society (the society of the entire city) is to be kept together by the blood of souls? By this abcess of iniquity which can delight only hell itself, just to make the coffers be full of gold; it is a curse, and society will be condemned for it. Now what are the excuses offered? There are no excuses that are really good—none. Some people will say, Reform these public houses, Reform them? You might as well say, turn away the dross from alcohol. It alcohol be pure, it would burn itself out; you cannot leave a residue. No improvement can be found; any effort which goes to make these things better will be futile. There is but one remedy—

SWEEP THEM AWAY WITH THE BRUSH OF DESTRUCTION.

They are the curse of our city; they have no good in them; no scintilla of usefulness; they are just the feeders of hell, and the curses of a civilized community.

Again, who frequent them? The young man may go through society, being decent, because society will from upon him if he outrages its cast iron laws. But look at him who has been treated the night before; his brain reels in the morning, and he goes down the streets feeling that he wants something. He has a decent home, and does not like to drink hard before the hour strikes twelve, and so he passes by one "licensed to sell," and a second, and a third, till at the last of all he has reached his place of business. He knows what is kept there, and feels he must do something; he just turns the handle of the door; and so the last "licensed to sell" stops him; he goes in, but what for? to steady that heated brain; to give a stimulus to the exhausted powers which have become enfeebled through intemperance. Then again, who are the others? There is the hard drinker, who now and then makes an excuse to leave his business, goes out and just slips in—that is all. Then there is the man who just "slips in" before he returns to his home at night—that is all; he goes in and there is a flush upon his cheek and an excitement about his manner. Where did he get it? At the "licensed to sell." He got it at where one was licensed to ruin his soul. If you understood your duty, my beloved friends, you would rise up in the power of determined will, and do your utmost to sweep them from the city. They will encourage nothing but what will degrade and debauch the soul—and yet they are licensed.

THE BELLE INVESTIGATION.

The Government enquiry into the Belle Scandal case was resumed at two o'clock, Tuesday afternoon, before Mr. Sheriff Leblanc. Muller's examination was continued.—One morning about four or five o'clock in the morning, either in the month of May or June, I found an old man in the Home, wanting to get water which he was refused to him. The old man said, "I cannot get water nor a bed." I then gave it to him from feelings of humanity. This was the guardian's business and not mine. I remonstrated with the guardian, Mr. Millenard, who then furnished the old man with water and a bed. About the same time I found in one room some thirty persons huddled together asking for accommodation and washing. In that room was one table and a bench. There were no beds in that room. Not more than ten persons could sit in the room; the rest sat on the table. The emigrants complained of this frequently, and wanted to leave the Home forthwith. Mr. Belle asked me if they had letters from Mr. Thorm, Emigration Agent in Great Britain. They were all provided with letters. Then he enquired how it was they came to the Home at that time (between eleven and two o'clock in the morning), and told them that if they had come at regular hours they would have had better accommodation, adding that they could not expect the Home to be kept open all night. Afterwards they left in different directions, highly displeased with their first acquaintance with the Home. I only

know of water having been refused on this one occasion above mentioned. The emigrants above mentioned were all Scotch. In the month of April we had two Belgian families at the Home. They complained to me one morning that they were chilled by the cold, showing me their suffering little families, and in answer to an inquiry why they could not warm themselves, they told me they could not get any wood, because the shed was closed, and they could not go into the kitchen, because they were forbidden to do so by Mr. Belle. I at once procured them wood. I then told the men to make their complaint directly to Mr. Belle. They did so, and he told them they had no business to grumble in this country as it was not his fault that they were detained so long at the Home. They then replied that they never were so roughly spoken to in their country. His exact words were, "You grumbled constantly and you grumbled before." The two Belgian families referred to had means, but considered that they should stay at the Home.

Mr. Belle was particularly anxious to get the names of the newly arrived immigrants entered on the books, with special orders to have the name entered, even if he or she did not stay at the Home. This done he was anxious to have them out again. The kitchen under the management of Madame Barrette was constantly in a dirty and disorderly state. I expostulated with her, but always without the least success. The shed in the yard, used as a dormitory, was not kept clean. People sleeping there complained, and I know personally that there was vermin in it. I spoke to Mr. Belle, who ordered a certain powder to be spread over the pallets. The privies were situated between two dormitories about 9 to 12 feet from each, and were always in a very offensive state. Sometimes disinfectants were used. The attic under the management of Madame Barrette was in a very dirty state, both floor and linen. Man and wife were separated at night. If there were not too many in the Home, there was room enough for married couples to be together. It was by Mr. Belle's orders that married couples were separated. I know instances where the contrary was done without permission. Very bitter complaints were made against Mr. Belle on this account, and sinister reasons were assigned for his conduct. Mr. Belle had a private room in the Home, and took his lunch there. There were constant complaints about the food, and Mr. Belle told them if they did not like it they might seek other quarters. One afternoon, to the best of my knowledge, in the month of August last, I came suddenly in the passage upon Mr. Belle and the housekeeper's daughter, Miss Leonie Barrette. I left them there in the passage, and passed on my way out. I did not speak to Mr. Belle about it, thinking it was not my business. The reason why immigrants disliked the Home, was owing to the "dilapidated state of the whole affair," and the scanty sleeping apartments. The immigrants on their arrival were generally well disposed and joyful, but were not so gay when they left. This was owing to the bad reception they received at the hands of Mr. Belle, addressing them in an overbearing manner, with *tu* and *te*. Mr. Belle's general demeanor towards the immigrants was insolent and overbearing. Towards the females his manner showed the recklessness of the libertine.

At this stage of the proceedings considerable discussion took place among the opposing counsel as to the question of confining the evidence to the specific charges made by Muller against Mr. Belle, after which the commission was adjourned until Thursday afternoon at two o'clock.

The Government enquiry into the Belle Scandal investigation was resumed on Thursday afternoon before Mr. Sheriff Leblanc.

Previous to the examination of Mr. Muller, Mr. Doherty, one of the counsel for Mr. Belle, took exception to the reports in the newspapers, which he said, did not agree in any one instance. He did not, he wished to be understood, find fault with any of the reporters, but did hope that "the young gentlemen" would refrain from drawing conclusions from the evidence adduced, and simply state the exact words of the witnesses. He trusted that the newspaper press of the city would withhold all comment until the depositions of the witnesses were finished.

Mr. Monk, on the other hand, said he had read the reports in the newspapers, and was surprised at their correctness.

Mr. Piche said that it was a favor that the public were admitted to the enquiry, and in doing so it was simply yielding to a prejudice of public curiosity. Strictly speaking, the enquiry should have been private.

The Commissioner stated that he had purposely refrained from reading the newspapers, so that the Government should be guided by the Secretary's report and no other.

Mr. Muller's examination was then continued.

His evidence, to a certain extent, was directed towards Mr. Belle's alleged improprieties of conduct with the female emigrants, married or unmarried, and with Leonie Barrette, the housekeeper's daughter, all which were compelled to omit. Mr. Muller proceeded:—

I was present when letters to the friends of emigrants at home were written, complaining of the treatment they received at the Home. I have seen them mostly every Sunday during the whole of my stay there. I have read a letter now in the hands of Mr. James Thorm, Emigration Agent at Point Levi. This letter was addressed to Mr. Thorm by the Secretary of the Colonization Society in Sherbrooke, in which that gentleman states that all the emigrants coming by way of Montreal complain of the Emigrants' Home in that city, and accompanied his letter to Mr. Thorm with several letters of emigrants complaining of the same thing, one emigrant in particular stating that it was "no home at all for anyone," and the Secretary of the Colonization Society at Sherbrooke wanted Mr. Thorm to devise means to keep emigrants from coming by way of Montreal. The general conduct of the emigrants at the Home was very good. Mr. Belle just steps into the office at noon, wanting to know how many emigrants there were in the Home. In case of a large number he took great pleasure in being with the emigrants in order that they should leave the Home as quick as possible. In hiring out the emigrants Mr. Belle puts them in any place at all, no matter how unsuitable they are for the particular business or trade. In this way he hired out a Parisian *cordon* to one Patrick King of Papineau street. At another time he sent two young Frenchmen to a certain place in the country; when they arrived they were told they were not wanted at all. They returned to the Home and demanded their expenses, amounting to about \$650, to be paid them by the Emigration Agent. We had in the Home a Flemish family of "nine heads" altogether. Mr. Belle remarked to me that they had also nine mouths, and they must leave the house as quick as possible. He wanted to have them taken by a Canadian farmer at St. Laurent, right or wrong. I interfered, telling Mr. Belle to give them a little time to find a better place, for the family had been only two days at the Home, and the farmer refused to take them. I found a place for them next day. It was ordered by Mr. Belle that dinner tickets should be issued to the emigrants, which each one was

obliged to obtain at the bar of the office. In this transaction Mr. Belle made it his business to be present when he handed them in all sorts of ways that they should leave the Home, and a good deal of this harassment went on while they were eating their dinner. I never saw Mr. Belle examining what they were eating. A man having no place, Mr. Belle would say to him, "This is your last dinner; you must be out of the house." A great number of emigrants complained of the unseemly harassment of Mr. Belle. Some emigrants passed without their tickets being challenged, on account of recommendations from friends. Mr. Belle was in the habit of calling the emigrants away from the table when they were eating their dinners without the slightest cause. The order of Mr. Belle was that when an emigrant had been once engaged, he should not return to the Home, and that from that time he should look out for himself.

The Government enquiry in the Belle Scandal case was resumed at two o'clock on Friday afternoon, in the Civil Jury Room, before Mr. Sheriff Leblanc.

Mr. Piche stated that having to be absent for several days on personal business, he would be replaced by Mr. Belle, a relation of the defendant.

Mr. Muller then continued his testimony. Returned from the Eastern Townships a young Scotch emigrant, after having been employed on a farm. I told him, according to the rules, he could not be received at the Home. I begged he would sit down on a bench in the office, and he would soon find another engagement. Shortly afterwards a farmer came in and hired him at fair wages. The man who employed him told him to meet him at a certain hotel near the station at one o'clock. I remarked to the man to take the emigrant right along with him, as there was such great demand for such men, and he might take another engagement—in reality because I wanted to evade the "law" of Mr. Belle, if he should see this man. I gave the young man his dinner ticket, telling him if Mr. Belle should notice him, to make him at once acquainted with the fact that he was engaged, and only staying at the Home for one week. Mr. Belle observed this man when his plate of soup was just served to him. Learning from the young emigrant that he had just returned from the Eastern Townships, Mr. Belle ordered him at once from the table, and himself chased him out of the Home, raising general indignation amongst all the emigrants on account of this cruel act. There was a general exclamation of "Le brute, le sale cochon!" This act was witnessed by about forty or fifty emigrants. This happened in midsummer. It was also witnessed by a very gentleman, the director of the Model Farm at L'Assomption. This gentleman immediately remarked that he was glad to see the right man (meaning Muller) in the right place. The result of Mr. Belle's visit to the Home consisted in harassment to the emigrants to make them accept of any places offered, suitable or not suitable, and thus gain his sole object, to have them out of the Home. Mr. Belle was also a coward, for the reason that when emigrants had pluck enough to remonstrate with him for his conduct, he would "draw in." Mr. Belle paid no attention to the application of emigrants, and showed no discrimination in choosing employment for them, according to their fitness or their likings. When I say that I understand something about the Emigrants' Home, it is because I sometimes assisted at the hotel business. I never saw the working of such a home outside Montreal. A Scotchman named Ross was appointed guardian to the Home, when he first entered the service. This guardian only remained a few weeks from his appointment, about the first of July. The housekeeper and guardian appeared to agree very well together. Mr. Ross was discharged because he took to drink. A certain Francois Desautels, a young French Canadian, was appointed in his place; a very good man, but he also took to drink, and was discharged. The housekeeper and Desautels agreed very well; they used to drink together. Mr. Belle was not aware that they were in the habit of drinking. I did not inform Mr. Belle when he was going on. Mr. Belle was absent at the seaside when the housekeeper and the guardian were so thick together at the bottle. Mr. Belle was apprised on his return from the seaside that the French-Canadian guardian owed the housekeeper sixteen dollars. Mr. Belle spoke to me of it, and to effect the return of the money he told Desautels a false story in my presence; that the money so lent to Desautels by Madame Barrette was given to her to defray the expenses of the Home. He then took the money out of Franco's wages and paid the housekeeper. I did not hear Mr. Belle remonstrating with the housekeeper on her habits of intemperance. She was not, however, intemperate habitually. Under the management of Madame Barrette, the management of the Home was going from bad to worse, because she knew nothing at all about keeping a house clean, nor about cooking. She neglected entirely to attend to her business, and busied herself much more in taking in washing from the emigrants for money, against which I continually remonstrated with Mr. Belle. I had 125 emigrants in the Home, and I could neither give them a towel nor soap. Madame Barrette kept about 50 bowls to increase the dirt about the yard. I frequently remonstrated with Mr. Belle, until at last he ordered 12 to be sent to his house, and the rest to be confined in a place in close proximity to the dormitory in the yard, and frequently caused a bad smell in the dormitory. The soap and water used for washing belonged to the Emigrants' Home. I had no access to the accounts, I therefore cannot say whether or not it was charged to the Government. Mr. Belle was perfectly well aware of all those transactions on the part of the housekeeper. Mr. Belle said that this washing should not be; but he never put a stop to it. This state of things continued all the time. Towels and soap were often wanting, and the straw in the pallets was only changed once in the summer. A young man came to me in the office about seven o'clock in the morning, and said, "Come with me; I will show you my bed," which I found to be full of "insect life."

The Commission then adjourned until two o'clock on Monday afternoon.

The enquiry was resumed on Monday afternoon at two o'clock before the Sheriff, Mr. Leblanc.

Mr. Muller continued his evidence.—The emigrants frequently made complaints to me of the meals served out to them being dirty and the vessels unclean. The cook undertook to order emigrants out of the house if she had the slightest dislike to them, and Mr. Belle supported her in this. Two cases of this kind came under my knowledge. There was one case of an emigrant and his wife, named Measine. After Mrs. Barrette ordered them out, Mr. Belle would make every effort to have those persons sent out of the house. I positively swear that I directed Mr. Belle's attention to the laziness and neglect in the manner of Madame Barrette, and in answer was that there was a great deal of her. I heard that there was a deal of excuse outside the office, but some commotion, and I stepped in. Some laughing and quire what was the matter. I was informed that a little girl there

was running after Mrs. Vanoster, hugging and kissing her. The husband of the woman spoke to me about the affair a few days after. Mrs. Vanoster was nearly a week in the house, being very sick during her stay there.

THE PAROTTE CASE.

The husband of Madame Parotte succeeded in getting work on a surveying party, and left his wife at the Emigrants' Home, being invited by Mr. Belle to do so. I also promised him at his departure that I would take care of his wife and little child. About four or five days after the husband's departure in June or July, Madame Parotte stepped into my office and communicated to me that she would leave the Home to-day, against which I remonstrated. However, she insisted on leaving that day. Mr. Belle came in during the day, and Madame Parotte herself informed him that she was leaving the place, saying she wouldn't stay any longer, and wanted her baggage brought to the place, where she was going to, as she had not the money to pay for the cart. Mr. Belle handed her, if I am correct in the coin, one half dollar. At the time Madame Parotte would not tell me what was the cause of her leaving the Home. I was instrumental in the hands of Mr. Belle in driving the emigrants from the Home, and showing them at night to their "miserable lair" called a bed. One Sunday morning in the month of October last there arrived about six a.m. four English emigrants—one sickly lady amongst them. The lady begged of me to let her have a cup of tea as soon as possible. Although I requested Madame Barrette and her daughter to provide these people with breakfast, for waiting in vain an hour and a half they left the Home, the sickly lady being entirely exhausted and unable to wait any longer. When I reported this to Mr. Belle he asked me how long did they wait. I told him at least one hour and a half. He replied, "Oh they might have waited a little longer." Madame Barrette remarked to me that if she would ever have to leave the house, I would have to leave it long before her. On the day of my altercation with the housekeeper, Mr. Belle came in about eleven o'clock in the forenoon, after the trouble was over, and stepped into the office along with Madame Barrette and an emigrant. I then at once said the emigrant would not be required as a witness, as I was going to repeat every word what I had told Madame Barrette a little while ago in the kitchen. I did repeat it, and denounced her bad practices still more strongly, and at the same time told Mr. Belle that I had to compliment him that he presided over the most dirty and filthy institution in all Christendom. Mr. Belle afterwards took me upstairs to show him why I said so. On reaching the attic, at the female department, I called the attention of Mr. Belle to some filth on the floor, and asked him what it was. He said in presence of Madame Barrette that this should not be. Mr. Belle asked me to show him the filth, upon which I replied that Mr. Belle could look after them himself. On returning to the office Mr. Belle informed me that from this moment I should be merely restricted to the operations of the office, and out of the office itself I should have nothing to do in the house; that it was only for Mrs. Barrette to look after the management of the house, and that Madame Barrette's washing did not concern me at all. Mr. Belle warned me several times that if I did not "bridle" my language towards the housekeeper he would discharge me. After this altercation Mr. Belle's future orders were that from this moment I could not receive any more the complaints of emigrants.

THE CLOSING SCENE.

The cook added that she would have no objection to my wife coming into the kitchen, as she was quite enough. I sprang up to my feet and called the cook a "miserable wretch." At this sentence Mr. Belle also sprang to his feet, and ordered me to leave the office, which I did. I had hardly arrived at my private department, when Mr. Belle sent an emigrant to tell me to come back to the office, and demanded that I should stay until replaced; at least I would have to do so for three days. I remained for a few days longer in my private apartment. A few days after, whilst not connected with the office, Mr. Belle informed me that I should have to remove from the Home forthwith, because if I was not out of the house next morning he would close the Emigrants' Home, as Madame Barrette threatened not to stay in the home another day if I remained. I stopped in the Home one day after that.

The commission then adjourned.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH LIBEL SUIT.

THE RECTOR VS. SEVEN OF HIS PARISHIONERS.

This suit is one instituted by the Rev. J. D. Borthwick, Rector of St. Mary's Church, Hochelaga, against Josias Bryant and others—his parishioners—for having caused to be printed and published slanders and damaging statements against his character and reputation. Damages asked, \$10,000. Yesterday in the Superior Court this case was called, on a motion for a jury trial before His Honor Judge Tupper. Mr. L. H. Davidson appearing for the plaintiff, Rev. J. D. Borthwick, and Messrs. C. P. Davidson and McMaster and Bages for the defendants, seven in number. The case for prosecution is that, on the 14th of October last, a vestry meeting was called, the members discussed questions of which no notice had been given, and that the defendants, Mr. Curry and others, caused the minutes of that meeting to be printed and circulated, in pamphlet form, under the title of "Information for parishioners asked to contribute to St. Mary's Church." In this, it is alleged, the plaintiff is accused of violating the sabbath, by purchasing sacramental wine on that day, and also virtually of obtaining money by misrepresentation; and it is also alleged that the minutes allude to the factor as unfit for the position he fills. The defendants deny these charges in full. Their plea is that as members of St. Mary's Church, they were authorized to hold a vestry meeting, and acted in good faith to all concerned therewith, being privileged to pass the resolutions found in the minutes. Six defendants deny circulating the pamphlet; though for the prosecution it is stated that a resolution was adopted at a vestry meeting ordering the printing and circulation of the minutes. In question. The Bishop conceals have complained to the pastor, but nothing of the conduct of their arguments of course has been done. The case was heard on Tuesday, and continued.

NEWS SUMMARY.

DEEP SNOW in the north of France. THE BERLIN "CARRIER" are on strike. HEAVY SNOWS are reported from Utah. AWARDS have been sent from Lisbon for Genoa. ROBERT BELL, formerly M.P. for Russell, is dead. THE JOURNEMEN BAKERS in Stuttgart are on strike. SWITZERLAND has recognized the Spanish Republic. THE NEW QUEBEC CABINET was sworn in on Friday.

ATTEMPTS at mediation in the South Wales Miners' strike have failed.

THE GENERAL HOSPITAL at Kingston has had a narrow escape from fire.

THE INSURRECTION in the Portuguese colony of Louanda has been suppressed.

TWO MILLION dollars is the figure given of the forgeries on the Bank of England.

BRASSIERE MILLS and LUMBER have been sold to Gillies Bros., of Cardston for \$200,000.

PREPARATIONS for the expedition against the Koryvans are still proceeding in Russia.

A FIRE at New Orleans has consumed 299 small dwellings and left 299 families homeless.

SS. "Geo. T. Wright" is believed lost on the Pacific coast with all on board—18 or 20 souls.

WESTMATH, Ont., has adopted the Dunkin Permissive Act for prohibiting the sale of liquor.

THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT ask large provision of money and troops to crush the Carlists.

THE GREAT EASTERN has on board 2567 miles of a new Atlantic Cable to be laid in May next.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC Bishops of Ireland have resolved to oppose the Government Education Bill.

THE CARLISTS seem becoming more formidable, and Pampeluna is expected to fall into their hands.

NINETY PERSONS are reported drowned by a collision between two ships in the harbor of Cadix, Spain.

THE NORTH WALES MINERS threaten to go on strike if a demanded rise of wages is not granted them.

THE DUBLIN UNIVERSITY authorities have resolved to petition against the Government Education Bill.

THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT forbids the transmission of despatches relative to the trouble in the Ukraine.

ELVEN PERSONS were drowned in the Tagus by the capsizing of a boat belonging to an Italian war vessel.

G. D. JAMES, collector, Toronto, has absconded after, it is alleged, having committed extensive forgeries.

THE OTTAWA DOCTORS have signed a Temperance certificate similar to that of their Montreal confreres.

MR. PICHE, Q. C. Montreal, it is said, has been appointed Assistant Clerk of the House of Commons, Ottawa.

THE NAVIGATION of the Madeira River, an important tributary of the Amazon, has been opened to foreign vessels.

THE WIFE of Foster, the car-hack murderer's victim, has written Gen. Dix asking for a commutation of his sentence.

A NEW ARRANGEMENT of the Spanish Republican Ministry has taken place, but their policy remains unchanged.

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT does not think any Government admitting of recognition has yet been established in Spain.

THE REPORT that Count Schouvaloff was to displace Count Von Brunnow as Russian Minister to England is untrue.

THE RITE from Llanabene to Tighish has been adopted for the Bale Verde Canal, and orders will soon be called for.

A MOTION in the House of Lords to have treaties submitted to Parliament six weeks before ratification was negatived.

THE DEATH of Captain Maxwell, formerly of Kingston, the first who took a steamer down the St. Lawrence Rapids, is reported.

CASTELLAN has addressed a memorandum to various Foreign powers urging their immediate recognition of the Spanish Republic.

THE U.S. SENATE Credit Mobilier Committee has reported a resolution expelling Senator Patterson for his share in the corruption.

THE DOWLAIS (Wales) Iron Co., have had to blow out their furnaces in consequence of the scarcity of coal owing to the strike.

GEN. FREEMONT and six others are down for trial in Paris for alleged swindling in American R.R. bonds to the extent of \$5,000,000.

THE DEFEAT of several Carlist units is reported. One of the fugitive bands is said to be under the lead of a priest who has shot a wound.

THE SHARER LORDES of the Liverpool, London and Globe Insurance Co. are angry at receiving no dividend owing to the losses at Chicago and Boston.

ABDUL KARIM, a self-appointed ambassador to Russia, has been brought back to Tashkent, a town in Khokand, Turkistan, and his allowance reduced.

MR. GLADSTONE explained in the House of Commons that the Geneva Tribunal having awarded a gross sum, the British Government could not go behind the decision.

THE GREEK PARLIAMENT has been opened. King George in his speech promised measures of reform, perseverance in building railways, and the annihilation of brigandage.

A MOTION for a select Committee on Colonial Relations, particularly as regards emigration, caused some debate in the Imperial Commons yesterday, but it was negatived without division.

THE DEBATE in the French Assembly on the report of the Committee of Thirty has begun. A Deputy advocated the proclamation of a Constitutional Monarchy, arguing that the Republic could not endure.

THE SPANISH REPUBLICAN MINISTER of the Colonies has telegraphed to Cuba and Porto Rico, that the Republic will maintain at whatever price the integrity of the Antilles. Sanctions of all parties evidently value their colonial connection.

DOX CARLOS is reported has crossed into France. His brother has issued a proclamation in his name calling on the regular army to join the Carlist forces.

Where is Abraham called the friend of God.
783.
Where is it stated that Abraham was justified by works?

ANSWERS TO BIBLE QUESTIONS.

725—Psalm 1:6.
726— " 2:3, 4.
727— " 13:14.

Miscellany.

THE GOING DOWN OF THE "NORTH-FLEET."

It was over the stormy waters that the Bridegroom came that night, And no one knew of his coming, for he came as in silent night. Some of the crowd were sleeping, some were to pleasure given, And no one thought of the angel that so swiftly came from heaven.

There was but a sudden shudder, a shock that was almost death, And the women with fair pale faces whispered under their breath; And some of the men grew quiet, speaking their words of prayer, And some of them, with anguish, groaned in their wild despair.

It was only the Bridegroom coming, had they but known their friend They would have gone to meet him, glad of the sure, swift end; But many had only slighted the wonderful love he gave, And saw not his arms outstretching under the cold, dark wave.

Oh, how did the strangers meet him, seeing him face to face? Perhaps, though they were not ready, He showed them his tender grace; Perhaps, in the awful tumult of the water's fall and rise, He said, "Ye shall all be with me to-day in Paradise."

But we, who have not yet listened to the sound of the midnight cry, Have time to prepare for his coming, who certainly draweth nigh. Oh, let us be always ready for the Bridegroom who cometh thus, Since we know that at any midnight He may come and call for us.

—Selected.

BEDE'S CHARITY.

(By Hester Stretton, Author of *Jessie's First Prayer*, &c.)

CHAPTER XXIV.—LOST MARGERY.

As from this point Margery is unable to continue her narrative, having quite forgotten what next happened to her, it remains for me to give you such an account as Cor and I have been able to make out, after carefully tracing her movements between that time and the night we discovered her. Cor says that sometimes a severe mental shock will so deaden the vibrations of that portion of the brain where memory is seated, that it is impossible for the person suffering it to recall any of the circumstances following upon it. But it is not entirely so with Margery. From time to time there have come to her mind vague and dim remembrances, and these we have gathered carefully, and we have met with persons that came across her during her wanderings, who have given us such information as make it possible for me to give a clear, circumstantial account of most that befell her.

But first I think I must tell you I passed that Christmas Day, whilst my dear old Margery was rambling like a ghost about the ruins of her old home. I was very low, I must confess. Aunt Moss had nearly worn out my spirit, and I was sadly in want of comfort; but it was some relief to get away from her, and go to the morning service at the Abbey, where I expected to see Margery, as usual. Of course she was not there, and her absence perplexed me, and made me uneasy. I returned home and gave aunt her dinner, such as it was, and then started off for Margery's lodgings. The street-door was not fastened, and I walked straight up to her attic; but what was my surprise to find it filled with children, making such a racket as only children can make!

I suppose Mrs. Brown heard me, or was startled by the sudden stillness of the children when they saw me, for she came out on the landing, and told me that Margery was gone away, and had left early the day before, carrying all the goods belonging to her in a reticule basket, except a box, which she had left in Mrs. Brown's care. She said most of Margery's things, clothes and all, were in pawn, and I was shocked, beyond measure to hear of the straits she had been in, never saying a word to me, and that my own careless blindness and selfishness, which had led me to tell her all my troubles, without seeing how much greater hers were. Mrs. Brown told me she was sure Margery had been half starved for the last month, though she might not feel it herself. Fasting was a thing that was very slow and cunning, she said; you never knew you were being starved to death till it was too late. That made me feel a shiver all through me.

"But why did she leave her room here?" I inquired.

"Well!" said Mrs. Brown, "I'm only a poor widow, and I've the rent to pay regular, and she couldn't pay her share when her 'lowance was stopped, and it run on week after week, and my daughter wanted to live with me and her children; so as soon as I told her, she was quite willing to go. She left her bed and bedstead for the back rent."

I knew it was not true that the old woman had any rent to pay, and I felt angry with her for her cold heartedness, after knowing Margery so many years; but I kept myself under at present.

"Have you no idea where she went?" I asked.

"She did say something about going back to her old home," she said, "and of a trip-train that was startin' for it yesterday mornin'. I shouldn't wonder if she thought she'd better get back to her own parish; but I did not ask her any questions. It was no business of mine."

"It ought to have been your business then," I cried, flaming up in spite of myself. "You're a selfish, good-for-nothing woman, after she has nursed you, and waited on you whenever you've been ill."

It did no good in the world for me to lose my temper; for she got sulky, and I could not get another word from her. She had always been a sullen, selfish woman, and I often wondered how Margery could bear with her. However, I returned home to tell my aunt, who was really roused up by the news, and ceased fretting on her own account. She was quite willing for me to go off to Paddington station, the place Margery would start from. I saw there the placard announcing an excursion train to Thornbury, which was to return the following Monday. It was Thursday now. I described Margery as well as I could to the porters who were about, but they did not seem to remember her. I suppose in their eyes she would be only an elderly, white-haired woman, dressed in shabby clothes. One of them said, but not at all unpleasantly, that he should have recollected me.

I was turning away out of the station, when a Liverpool train came in, and I stayed a few minutes, just from idle curiosity, to see the passengers alight. I never was so surprised, and relieved, and delighted in my life, as when I saw Cor step out from a carriage on to the platform, looking brown and weather-beaten, but still the same Cor. He did not see me, and I was obliged to run after him as he was hurrying off, and put both my hands round his arm, before he knew I was there.

"Why, Phoebe!" he cried, gasping for breath, "Phoebe! how did you know I was coming home to-day?"

"I did not know whether I should laugh or cry; and Cor, who sees everything, saw how hysterical and fluttered I was, and just drew my arm quietly within his own, and walked on without saying any more."

"How is it you are come home to-day?" I asked as soon as I could speak.

"We put all steam on," he said, "to get in this morning, for Christmas Day; and I managed to get off at once, and just caught the train. I shall spend Christmas evening with you and Miss Margery."

"Oh, dear Cor!" I cried, "I have lost Miss Margery!"

"Lost her!" he repeated, getting very white. "You don't mean that she is dead?"

"No, no!" I said, squeezing his arm to reassure him; and then I told him everything. He seemed thunder-struck, and quite unable to comprehend what I said, especially about poor Margery losing her pension from Bede's Charity.

"She ought to have told me," he cried. "I have money laid by which is as much here as mine. Friends should tell one another their troubles, and bear one another's burdens. But could you do nothing for her, Phoebe?"

Then I had to tell him how I had lost my situation, and could not hear of another, or get enough work to keep me; and how aunt Moss had fretted her heart out, and mine. Cor listened with a very grave and saddened face.

"Now," he said, "I shall never know, when I am away, whether those I love are well and happy, or are hiding their troubles from me. I shall always be fearing that some great misfortune has come upon you, that you will not tell me of it."

"No, no, dear Cor," I answered, "please don't. I will promise faithfully to tell you everything if you won't do that."

It was a very cold afternoon, but we did not feel it. We had so much to talk about, and particularly about Margery. Cor did not feel so sure she had gone down to Condover, for she had often said she had no friends left there now.

"Phoebe," he said, "there is one thing I have never told you, not about myself. There's the difference between my secrecy and yours. A doctor will often have secrets in his keeping which he cannot tell, even to his wife. But I think I must tell you this now."

It was what he knew about Stephen Bede, and how rich and grand he was; for Cor had found out where he lived in Piccadilly, and that he had large estates in Australia, and how his eldest daughter was going to marry the eldest son of Sir Francis Pembroke. There was no doubt in Cor's mind that he was Margery's brother, but I could not believe in any man being so cruel and ungrateful, especially a man so pleasant in his manner and speech as Margery's brother Stephen.

"We will go and ask him if he knows anything about her," said Cor, boldly. "If he is not her brother, he will be only sorry for us, and if he is, I should like to try if he has any heart at all within him. We will tell him all her poverty and trouble."

It was not so far out of our way that we cared about the distance, and we were in no hurry to get home to aunt Moss. Cor rang a peremptory peal at Stephen Bede's bell, and the door was opened by a butler, very lordly in his manner, but he did not deny Mr. Bede to us. He showed us into the dining room, and even poked the fire in a patronizing way, asking us to draw near to it, before he went to call his master.

Mr. Bede came in immediately, and did not seem surprised to see us, shaking hands with me, as he perfectly remembered meeting me at aunt Moss's. His face had a downcast, humble look upon it, which struck me instantly.

"Mr. Moss has been to see you?" he said, speaking to me.

"No," I answered, "I have not seen my uncle to-day. Have you seen him?"

"I went there this morning," he said in a low voice, "to ask after my sister Margery. Has he not sent you with some news of her?"

So astonished was I that I could not answer a word. I looked from one to the other; Mr. Bede was standing with his elbow on the chimney piece, his face half hidden by his hand; Cor stood beside my chair; his face, the openest, frankest face in the world, was all flushing and working with his strong feeling.

"Your sister Margery?" he exclaimed.

"Yes, my sister," he said painfully. "I have been denying her these twenty years, but I am driven to own her at last."

We were all silent for a moment or two after that; Mr. Bede's lips twitching and trembling as if he was in great pain, which he wished to control.

"I will tell you," he cried, suddenly, looking down at me, "perhaps you will have some mercy for my folly. Margery brought me up above my station, and my head was full of ambition and pride. I never told my wife I had any relations. Nay I told her father, before our marriage, that I had none, and that I belonged to a good old yeoman family, of long descent, but now reduced to me only. He belonged to the Pembroke, a scape-grace of the family, who had been shipped out to Melbourne, and prospered there, till he had the finest run in the colony, and was one of the richest men. He took a fancy to me; but he would never have consented to my marrying his daughter if he had thought my family was a low one. You understand?"

"I understand," I answered, "you did it for love's sake."

"Partly," he continued with a half smile, "and partly from ambition; he was a handsome man, and he took my word. He believed I came of a good, old family, and there was nothing about me to contradict it. But I never dared to own Margery to him, and what is worse, I never dared to own her to my wife. I was ashamed of her."

"You should be ashamed of yourself, sir," flashed out Cor, "she is one of the best, and kindest, and truest women God ever sent into this world."

"I am greatly ashamed," he said sorrowfully, "and I loved Margery, after a fashion. I called my second child after her, but I dared not keep up a correspondence with her. Besides, I felt a little sore that my father should have left everything to her, and never mentioned me in his will. My mother, Margery's step-mother, had very early given me the notion that everything belonging to my father would come to me; and I was a little, very little sore about that, when I left her letter unopened at the post-office at Melbourne."

"But you were rich," said Cor.

"Not then," answered Mr. Bede; "the lawyer, Mr. Garnett, who had always treated me as his adopted son, was just dead, and had left me only a small legacy, which seemed nothing in my first mortification and disappointment. I felt almost as if Margery might have wronged me, and it suited my circumstances, or rather my circumstances made the temptation stronger, to cherish some bitterness against her, and persuade myself I spoke the truth when I told my wife's family I had no brother or sister—Margery being but my half-sister. I thought she was well provided for according to her situation, and I had no idea thought so till this morning. And I have thought she was living upon alms, upon a poor pension of six shillings a week from Bede's Charity, whilst we were living here as you see us."

"It has been worse than that," I said. "Margery lost her pension last Michaelmas, and she has been nearly starved and famished to death since. She has pawned everything she has."

"Good heavens!" he cried, "will she ever forgive me? And she has been here twice, and seen all our comfort and wealth! Has she sent me any message by you? Are you come to ask me to help her?"

"We have lost her," I said, and I could scarcely speak for crying. "The woman she lodged with told her she must go, and we do not know where she is gone. We came to see if, by any chance, you knew anything of her."

Mr. Bede did not answer me, but he walked up and down the room as if only in that way he could command his feelings, and his face looked more wretched than I had ever seen a man's face look till then. He muttered "My poor Margery! poor, poor Maggie!" over and over again, until he grew calmer, and came back to his old place by the chimney piece.

"We must seek her everywhere," he said. "I have not told you yet how my secret came out. Yesterday, at night, I saw an advertisement in the *Times* for Margery Bede, of Bede's farm, in the parish of Condover, heir of Jacob Simister, and daughter of Margery Simister, the wife of John Bede. An old chamberlain suit had come to an end, and Margery is the sole representative of two of the claimants. You see there was no possibility of concealing her relationship to me any longer; the name of the place I have bought, my father's old farm, was there as well as Margery's own name. I told my wife about it last night."

I could not ask him any question, though I longed to know how his wife had borne to hear that her husband had kept a secret from her, a secret of this kind, for so many years. He looked miserable enough, and there was no sound of gaiety or mirth about the house. But I could not ask anything, and he said nothing.

"Will Margery have much money?" I inquired.

"I know nothing about that," he answered. "All we have to do now is to find her, and I will do everything in my power to atone for my unkindness. What a fool I have been!"

I think Cor was pleased with his saying that, for his face cleared a little, and he spoke more cordially to him. We agreed what we were to do; Stephen Bede would go down to Thornbury the next day to see if Margery had gone there, and Cor would make further enquiries at the station and about the city, whilst I could only stay at home, in the hope that she would come to us in any extremity. I knew that she had half a sovereign left, and that was some comfort to us all; for we thought it probable that she was only settling herself in some new room before letting me know she had been turned out of the old one, unless she had gone to see her house at Condover.

(To be Continued.)

EARNING A LIVELIHOOD.

Between the seasons of business, I suppose there are thousands of young men—I do not know but five thousand—from twenty to thirty years of age who have nothing to do. New York is full of them. I do not speak with disrespect of them. I merely say that here are one, two, three, four, five, ten thousand young men thronged together in New York, and I say to them, "Can you do a day's work on a farm?" "No," they say, "I never learned that."

"Are you good on a ship-board?" "No," I have never been to sea, I could not stand that."

"Can you work the loom?" "No."

"Can you make a shoe?" "No."

"Do you know anything about blacksmithing?" "No."

"Can you make a chair?" "No."

"Are you good as a tailor?" "No, sir."

"Can you lath and plaster?" "No, sir."

"Can you build a house?" "No."

"Is there anything on God's earth that you can make?" "No, not a thing."

"What can you do, then?" "Well, I have been brought up to book-keeping—to merchandising." That is a respectable business. I do not deride it. I do not blame a young man for going into business. Neither do I blame him—though I pity him—when business is slack, and he is high and dry, because he has been brought up to that, in labor, of which there is a superfluity, and has learned nothing else, and can do nothing else.

This trouble does not exist in New York any more than in Boston, and Cincinnati, and Philadelphia, and Baltimore, and Chicago, and St. Louis, and Louisville, and San Francisco. In all large cities, the world around, there are multitudes of men that are waiting for an opportunity to earn a living, who do not know how to do a single thing in the nature of productiveness. They cannot produce anything. They would starve on a hundred acres of land, because they do not know how to raise corn. They would be homeless, and freeze to death, if they lived in a lumber-yard, because they do not know how to nail two boards together. They would go barefoot with any amount of leather about them, because they do not know how to make a shoe. They are fools at a blacksmith's forge, on a ship, or in a shop. Give them a pen, and they are quite at home. They can make out an account as an entry clerk. They can perform the duties of a book-keeper. These are very good things, very necessary things; but there are five times as many men seeking such employment as there are positions to be filled. On the other hand, there are abundant opportunities for work in departments where they do not want to go. They want something lighter, something easier, something more respectable than manual labor. But it is respectable to be nine months out of twelve without business? I tell you, the contented German, who sits in his little six-by-nine shop, singing Luther's hymns, and sewing and patching shoes, is more respectable than that young man who left his father's farm before he had learned to work on it, and came to New York, where he had two or three good years, and then was thrown out of employment and has had no regular business since, and goes about asking, "Can you get me a place in the Custom House?"—fool's paradise! "Can you get me a place in the Navy-yard?" "Is there not a place in Washington that you can get for me?"

I wish you could stay in my house for a month, and hear the applications that I have made to me by people who are out of business to get them employment. You know I have so much influence! About half of New York think I own Washington, and Central Park, and Prospect Park, and the Brooklyn Navy-yard, and the New York Custom-house, and sundry other great inheritances, and feel, if they do not get a position in one of these places when they apply, that it is on account of sheer ugliness on my part! I never say no, or turn away a well-meaning young man from my door, without a sigh. And yet, I think about these things.

Men and brethren, there are not enough young men so brought up that they know how to work. I feel the intimate connection which there is between working and morally I feel the substantial sinfulness of men who lead indolent and useless lives. I honor men of the shop. I honor men of the soil. I honor men of the sea. And I say to young men's parents, "It is a shame for you to bring up boys and girls without teaching their hands how to earn themselves bread! I do not care if you are worth a million dollars, your child ought to know how to work as much as anybody else's child. Your boy may yet beg his bread, though to-day you can enable him to walk in royal apparel. It is a shame not to bring up a girl to know how to work for her living. It is a shame for a girl to be ashamed to work for a living. It is a shame for a young woman not to be willing to do a chambermaid, a washerwoman, a cook, or anything else that is honest, by which her livelihood may be gained. Every young man should know how to use his hands; how to make his head inventive; how to apply himself so as to gain a living honestly."—H. W. Beecher.

A HUNGARIAN CAUSE CELEBRE.

A trial is at the present time taking place at Szegedin, Hungary, the extraordinary complicated and dramatic history of which is destined to occupy a conspicuous place among the criminal records of all countries and epochs. The individuals involved may be counted by hundreds—their crimes and offences by thousands; and the first arrests took place as far back as 1859. The *Lloyd of Pesth* gives an outline of the case under the title of the "Process Sandoz"—Sandoz being the name of the chief of a band of malefactors whose depredations and atrocities rendered them the terror of Szegedin and the surrounding district. According to the *Pesth Journal*, ever since 1859 the inhabitants of Szegedin had become so terrified in consequence of the daring exploits of Sandoz's band of brigands that they locked and barred themselves in their houses every night at dusk, and dared not to venture into the streets even during the day without being armed with revolvers and swordsticks. Robberies, incendiary fires and assassinations were the order of the day, and the malefactors carried their audacity so far as to attack the diligences in the open day, and in the very midst of the town itself. For a long time the criminals escaped, while numbers of innocent inhabitants were arrested on suspicion; and it was under these circumstances that M. de Raday was sent as a royal commissioner to Szegedin, charged with full powers and having at his disposition the forces and the resources necessary to put an end to a state of things so deplorable and alarming. M. de Raday soon became convinced that not only Szegedin but the whole county and the surrounding districts were infested by formidable companies of brigands, whose organization was complete and their circle of action clearly defined. A number of these companies were soon tracked, and several of the bandits were arrested and given up to justice. It was then found that the police agents were in league with the malefactors. At Szegedin a Commissary of Police, two judges, four employees of the treasury, and sixty-six detectives were arrested as being implicated in the depredations of the bands. Crimes have been brought to light which were perpetrated thirty years ago, and an old man of seventy was condemned some short time ago for a crime committed when he was forty years of age. The novel and peculiar "psychological" system pursued by the royal commissioner in order to find out the guilty parties among the hundreds of individuals arrested is worth recording. The prisoners were completely isolated from the rest of the world during their confinement, and their eyes were bound, in order to prevent any conversation by signs usually resorted to by accomplished thieves. "Companions in captivity," totally unknown to them, were placed in the same cells, who soon insinuated themselves into the confidence of the prisoners, studied their characters, made themselves acquainted with their secrets and used all their efforts to bring about their confession. With regard to Sandoz, the royal commissioner himself succeeded in getting a full and complete avowal of his crimes by adopting tactics of most ingenious kind. Knowing the great brigand chief to be exceedingly vain of his reputation, and to be in the habit of looking down upon his less daring accomplices as mere "purloiners of chickens," M. de Raday ordered Sandoz to fall upon his knees before his fellow prisoners—the small fry of the band—whose instructions were to reproach their chief with being a chicken stealer like themselves. The ruse was perfectly successful: the proud Sandoz's "honor" was mortally wounded, and the "brigand king" (as he loved to style himself) immediately entered into a full confession of his long series of crimes, as well as those of his accomplices. The expedient resorted to by the royal commissioner in the case of another famous brigand, named Jan Bajdor, was this: Bajdor is known to be exceedingly superstitious; he is charged with having committed two murders and insists upon asserting his innocence. One evening the examining magistrate had Bajdor brought into his cabinet, and immediately addressed him as follows: "John Bajdor, I cannot sleep on your account; the ghost of Peter Bodri, whom you assassinated, appears before me every night, and threatens to haunt and torment me until such time as I shall have put the rope with which you strangled your victim round your own neck?" On saying this the examining magistrate threw a rope round Bajdor's neck and ordered him to be taken back to prison. At midnight John Bajdor, who had slept soundly, notwithstanding his fifty-nine crimes, jumped up affrighted and rushed towards the door of the prison crying for help. This was the moment the examining magistrate had anxiously awaited; he made his way into the cell, when Bajdor confessed not only to having murdered Bodri and his son, but also to having committed a number of other heinous crimes. In consequence of these disclosures the two bodies of his victims, with the ropes still round their necks, were discovered. Acting on Bajdor's advice a number of other prisoners have made free confession of the crimes they committed. All the malefactors arrested, it must not be forgotten, are kept in the utmost ignorance as to the charges which weigh against them. On their first examination they were not questioned as to the perpetration of such or such a crime; they were simply asked to give an account of any offence of which they might acknowledge themselves guilty. By this means a number of crimes unsuspected. An idea of how desirable a place Szegedin must have been to live in may be formed from the following enumeration of the cases which are now being tried before a specially appointed Court: When the royal commissioner first arrived at Szegedin there were 1,506 criminal charges to be made. A little later 500 more charges were made, and when the Royal Commission had terminated its duties 950 fresh cases were brought to light, making in all nearly 3,000 crimes of the gravest character. Of this total 1,000 judgments have already been given, and nearly all these judgments have been confirmed on appeal. The crimes and offences discovered by the Royal Commission amount to 8,000. The principal charges are those of murder, robbery, pillage, incendiary, &c., the cases of robbery alone exceeding 4,000. The trial of this unprecedented batch of highway-men, which commenced on the 12th Jan., is not expected to terminate before the end of the month.—*London Standard*.

SKATING.—There is no finer, more manly graceful, and invigorating sport than skating and it is a thousand pities that fashion or prudish should have cast some discredit on its enjoyment and hindered its universal popularity. It gives endless scope for personal courage, endurance, skill, and taste. One can't get tired of it, for it is an art whose possibilities are boundless, and whose min-

ute and finer developments are infinite in subtlety and bewildering in their complex variety. To the accomplished figure-skater of to-day the blundering, straight-ahead operator of twenty years ago, who made it his pride to skate so many miles in so many minutes, to cut a ring backwards and jump over a log on the ice, is as the pianist of a travelling show to Tausig or Rubenstein. It makes our home-keeping youth acquainted with the fresh joy of keen wintry air and smiling wintry hill-sides, and dim gray twilight, and frosty moon-ribs. There is a timorous ecstasy in the first breathless essay of the "outward edge," such as the hero may feel in going into battle, and the first successful "backward five" may aptly prefigure all later triumph and achievement. Nowhere can our young people—boys and girls together—meet in more healthy, natural, and hearty relations than on the ice. Nowhere can a man's young fellow—we say it without a shadow of self-sentimentality—so commend himself to the regard of a frank, kindly girl as by his patient, considerate, and helpful care in a series of first skating lessons. Nowhere is a fine courageous, spirited girl more attractive than in the modest but fearless determination with which she addresses herself to better the instruction of her more robust companion. Young eyes will light up at the glance of other eyes, we know; young hearts will beat responsive to other hearts; why not a thousand times better under the free sky, the crisp, clear air, and fine inspiration of noble exercise, than in the stifling, noxious atmosphere and amid the morbid excitement of the ball-room or theatre?—From *"Home and Society," Scribner's for February*.

THE UNKINNED GUEST.

The Chinese visiting etiquette is that the rank of the caller is denoted by the size of his card. Thus the visiting-card of a high mandarin would be an immense roll of paper, nicely tied up. A gentleman lately engaged a full-blooded Chinese servant, and immediately after held a "reception." John Chinaman attended the door, and received with great respect the small card of the visitors, and, evidently with an opinion of his own of the low condition of the gentleman's friends, pitched them into a basket, and, with scant ceremony, showed their owners into the drawing-room. But presently the gasman called with a bill on a piece of cream-colored paper. That card satisfied John—with deep reverence he received it. With low salaams, he ushered the bearer not only into the drawing-room, but with profound bows, to the dismay of the gasman, clear up to the centre of the room, where the lady of the house was receiving her distinguished guests; and then John, with another humble reverence, meekly retired, doubtless supposing that the owner of that card could be no less than a prince.

Readings on the 3333's.

(These readings are based on the lessons of the International Series of Sunday-school lessons, which is hoped will be adopted in every school in the country. They are meant for all readers, and will be rather calculated to excite a interest in the lesson than to relieve the teacher's any way from the work of studying. Nor are the ways they may express to be adopted without that careful examination which is due to matters of such moment.)

March 16.—JANUS XX II. 30—49.

—GEO. HAND BAC.

In connection with this lesson we copy some extracts from the narrative of Mr. J. L. Stephens, an American traveller who visited Idumea, the inheritance of the descendants of Esau, in 1855.

I had now crossed the borders of Edom. Standing near the shore of the Elanitic branch of the Red Sea, the doomed and accursed land lay stretched out before me, the theatre of awful visitations and their more awful fulfilment; given to Esau as being of the taintness of the earth, but now a barren waste, a picture of death, an eternal monument of the wrath of an offended God, and a fearful witness to the truth of the words spoken by his prophet: "From generation to generation it shall be waste; none shall pass through it for ever and ever."—Isaiah xxviii.

I read in the sacred book prophecy upon prophecy and curse upon curse against the very land on which I stood. I was about to journey through this land, and to see with my own eyes whether the Almighty had stayed his uplifted arm, or whether his sword had indeed come down "upon Idum, and the people of his curse, to judgment." I have before referred to Keith on the Prophecies, where, in illustrating the fulfilment of the prophet's against Idumea, "none shall pass through it for ever and ever," after referring to the singular fact that the great caravan routes existing in the days of David and Solomon, and in the Roman empire, are now completely broken up, and that the great caravan route to Mecca from Damascus and Cairo lie along the borders of Idumea, barely touching, and not passing through it, he gives by abundant references that to this day no traveller has ever passed through the land.

Standing near the shore of this northern extremity of the Red Sea, I saw before me an immense sandy valley, which, without the aid of geological science, to the eye of common observation and reason had once been the bottom of a sea or the bed of a river. This dreary valley of El Ghor extended from the shores of the Elanitic Gulf to the southern extremity of the Lake Asphaltites, or the Dead Sea; and it was manifest, by landmarks of Nature's own providing, that over that sandy plain those who had once mingled their waters, or, perhaps, more probably, that before the Cities of the Plain had been consumed by brimstone and fire, and Sodom and Gomorrah covered by a pestilential lake, the Jordan had here rolled its waters.

The next day the general features of the scene were the same, eternal barrenness and desolation; and moving to the right, at one o'clock we were at the foot of the mountains of Seir; and towering above all the rest, surmounted by a circular dome, like the tombs of the sheiks in Egypt, was the bare and rugged summit of Mount Hor, the burial-place of Aaron, visible in every direction at a great distance from below, and on both sides the great range of mountains, and forming one of the marks by which the Bedouin regulates his wanderings in the desert.

Before daybreak the next morning we had struck our tent, and sending it and the other baggage by another route, the sheik being afraid to take with us anything that might tempt the Bedouins, and leaving behind us several of our men, the sheik, his brother, three Arabs, Paul, and myself, with nothing but what we had on, and provisions for one day, started for Wady Mousa and the city of Petra. I remember, moreover, that the ascent was difficult; that our camels toiled laboriously; and that even our sure-footed Arabian horses often slipped upon the steep and rugged path. Once the sheik and myself, being in advance of the rest, sat down upon an eminence which overlooked, on one side, a range of wild and barren mountains, and on the other, the dreary valley of El Ghor; above us was the venerable summit of Mount Hor; and near us a stone blackened with smoke, and surrounded by fragments of bones, showing the place where the Arabs had sacrificed sheep to the Prophet Aaron. Not far from the base of Mount Hor we came to some tombs cut

in the sides of the rocks, and standing at the threshold of the entrance to the excavated city. Before entering this extraordinary place, it would not be amiss, in a few words, to give its history.

Petra, the excavated city, the long lost capital of Edom, in the Scriptures and profane writings, in every language in which its name occurs, signifies a rock; and through the shadows of its early history, we learn that its inhabitants lived in natural clefts or excavations made in the solid rock. Desolate as it now is, we have reason to believe that it once looked to the time of Esau, "the father of Idum;" that princes and dukes, eight successive kings, and again a long line of dukes, dwelt there before any king "reigned over Israel;" and we recognize it from the earliest ages as the central point to which came the caravans from the interior of Arabia, Persia, and India, laden with all the precious commodities of the East, and through which these commodities were distributed through Egypt, Palestine, and Syria, and all the countries bordering on the Mediterranean, even Tyre and Sidon deriving their purple and dye from Petra. Eight hundred years before Christ, Amariah, the King of Judah, "slewed Edom in the Valley of Salt 10,000, and took Seilah (the Hebrew name of Petra) by war." Three hundred years after the last of the prophets, and nearly a century before the Christian era, the "King of Arabia" issued from his palace of Petra, at the head of 50,000 men-horse and foot, entered Jerusalem, and, uniting with the Jews, pressed the siege of the Temple, which was only raised by the advance of the Romans; and in the beginning of the second century, though its independence was lost, Petra was still the capital of a Roman province. After that time it rapidly declined its history became more and more obscure, or more than a thousand years it was completely lost to the civilized world, and until its discovery by Burckhardt in 1812, except to some wandering Bedouins, its very site was unknown.

And this was the city at whose door I now stood. In a few words, this ancient and extraordinary city situated within a natural amphitheatre of 50 or three miles in circumference, encompassed on all sides by rugged mountains 500 or 600 feet in height. The whole of this area is now a waste of ruins; dwelling-houses, palaces, temples, and triumphal arches, all petrified together in undistinguishable confusion. The sides of the mountains are cut into, in a perpendicular direction, and fill with long and continued ranges of dwelling-houses, temples, and tombs, excavated with st. labor out of the solid rock; and while their summits present Nature in her wild and most savage form, their bases are adorned with all the beauty of architecture, and with columns and porticoes and pediments and ranges of corridors enduring as the mountains out of which they are hewn and from as if the work of a generation scarcely ygone by.

Nothing can finer than the immense rocky rampart which encloses the city. Strong, firm, and immovable as Nature itself, it seems to deride the walls of cities, and the puny fortifications of skillful engineers. The only access is by a climbing over this wall of stone, practicable only in one place, or by an entrance the most extraordinary that Nature, in her wildest freaks has ever framed. The loftiest peaks, over-ruled by the heads of men, the poorest mounds of earth, or the most insignificant skill and daring, sink into insignificance by comparison. It is, perhaps, the most wonderful object in the world, except the ruin of the city to which it forms the entrance. Unfortunately, I did not enter by this door, but by climbing over the mountains at the other end. Several times the sheik told me, in the most positive manner, that there was no other entrance; and I was moved to indignation at the marvellous and exaggerated, not to say false representations, as I thought, of the only persons who had given any account of this wonderful entrance. I was disappointed, too, in another matter. Burckhardt had been accosted immediately upon his entry, by a large party of Bedouins, and been obliged to remain but a very short time. Messrs. Legh, Banks, and Maugham, had been opposed by hundreds of Bedouins, who swore that they should never enter their territory nor drink of their waters; and that they would shoot them like dogs if they attempted it. And I expected some immediate opposition from at least thirty or forty, fewer than whom, the sheik had told me, were never to be found in Wady Mousa.

In front of the great temple, the profane beauty of Petra, of which more hereafter, I saw a narrow opening in the rocks, exactly corresponding with my conception of the object for which I was seeking. A full stream of water was gushing through it, and filling up the whole mouth of the passage. Mounted on the shoulders of one of my Bedouins, I got him to carry me through the swollen stream at the mouth of the opening, and set me down on a dry place a little above, whence I began to pick my way, occasionally taking to the shoulders of my follower, and continued to advance more than a mile. I was beyond all peradventure in the great entrance; I was seeking. There could not be two such, and I should have gone on to the extreme end of the ravine, but my Bedouin suddenly refused me the further use of his shoulders. He had been some time objecting and begging me to return, and now positively refused to go any farther; and, in fact, turned about himself. I was anxious to proceed, but I did not like wading up to my knees in

